THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Deacon & Peterson, Publishers,

NUMBER SIXTY-SIX SOUTH THIRD ST.

Two Dollars Per Annum, In Advance.

THREE DOLLARS IF NOT PAID IN ADVANCE.

EDMUND DEACON, HENRY PETERSON, { EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

CLUBS.—FOR TERMS TO CLUBS, SEE PROSPECTUS ON THIRD PAGE.

DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXIX. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1850. WHOLE NO. 1492.

Original Poetry.

"NONE ARE ALL EVIL."

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY MRS. E. J. EAMES.

Ah! who shall say one virtue may not blossom
In man's worn heart, though chilled by evil dealing?
Who dare affirm that in the human bosom
There lives no single germ of better feeling?
None are all evil; and the meanest spirit
Not wholly of its virgin beauty robed—
Most of us "dead estate" some good inherit,
Evil's though the times outlawed may be sighed

How we debased, and dim'd, man still retaineth
A passing perfume from life's budding hour—
Some trace of pure primeval bloom remaineth,
Though long in dust hath lain the trampled flower
One spark of the divinity yet lingers—
A small but ever living ray within.
A veiled gem—yes, there our God's own finger,
Hath graven the Spirit's holy origin

None are all evil, oh, my human brother!
Below in the deepest heart of man there liveth
The "still small voice" whose influence none may
Yet hope that calmly and continual strivest
To overcome the evil in the body—
The etheric from the prisoner part to sever
To generate and save, however slowly,
Comes the redemption hour of each endeavor.

Go! live and love, and feel thou for another,
As the Omniscient gave you the credit kindly
To the curvature of the strong heather
Still trusting, and encouraging benignly—
Beautiful, and great, the gift possessing—
"Man is man the good he doth object
"None are all evil," thanks to God, and blessing.
"That on man's image He hath stamped His spirit!
Now Lord

Original Novelet.

THE OLD ASTROLOGER; OR, THE PROPHECY FULFILLED.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY T. S. ARTHUR.

CHAPTER I.

"There are two things that I'd give the world to know," said Henry Appleton, in a tone that betrayed the concentration of his feelings.

"What are they?" inquired his friend Jasper.

"The result of this love-suit, for one thing," replied Appleton. "Suspense! how terrible it is! If I only knew what was before me, my mind would be at rest. If I is to have a fortune, let me know it not, not, not. I prefer certainty, even if it be a certainty of evil."

"Then, with a daring, or, I might say, impious hand, you would lift the veil that hides the doubtful future!"

"Know me the cards that chase these curtains, and my hand will clutch them instantly. I am not afraid to know the hidden mysteries of the coming time."

"Mysteries wisely withheld," said Jasper.

"Wisely for those who choose to believe in such wisdom," returned Appleton, evincing some impatience in his manner. "I am not of so cool and passive a temperament."

"Wisely in all," gravely replied Jasper.

"It is well perhaps, for you to think so, my friend. Well, indeed, for all who can tamely live on in the present, taking step after step, like men walking a strange way in the black midnight, and not knowing the instant they may plunge, headlong, into some fearful precipice. If we knew what was approaching, we might prepare for calamity, or avoid the coming evil."

"But, you forgot, that our knowledge of future events, were such knowledge given, could not further change events from transpiring. How could we avoid an evil that we knew was going to occur? The fact is, my friend, in seeking for reasons to justify your wishes, your mind falls into a temporary confusion of ideas. Don't you see this?"

"In what way do I manifest confusion of ideas?"

"I have just said. You spoke of foreknowledge giving the ability to avoid a coming evil. That could not be an approaching evil to you, which it was in your power to avoid."

"I don't see that so clearly."

"Suppose you are to lose this law-suit?"

"Well?"

"Your knowledge of the fact could not affect the occurrence. The disastrous result would, as certainly, take place, as if you were in ignorance up to the final moment when the court rendered a decision."

"Is that is true. But, if I knew that I was going to lose this suit, I would make no further dispositions on the result. Instead of this, I would turn all my thoughts into my profession, and make that the best of my failure."

"On the other hand, if you knew that the result would be favorable, you would shut your books, and throw physic to the dogs."

"That I would!"

"Yet, you have a business for the study of medicine, and, if you were to devote to it all the powers of your mind, you would attain professional distinction, and become eminently social."

"With a fortune of sixty thousand dollars, what need would there be for me to wear out my life in a private station of a physician?"

"The same need that would exist under any other circumstances."

"I do not see your meaning."

"The public want would remain as before."

"The public want?"

"Yes, and on your ability to supply that want society would have a claim equally strong as before."

"Give me the sixty thousand dollars' worth of property you speak of, and I'll snap my fingers in the face of society in answer to any claim it may set up against me," replied Appleton.

"The wisdom of that Providence which regards the good of the whole, as well as the good of each individual, in drawing an impenetrable veil behind even the present and the future, is clearly apparent in your case," said Jasper. "The very uncertainty hanging over your law-suit, causes you, as a prudent man, to store your mind with medical facts in order that you may use them for your own support in the world, should not the expected fortune come into your hands. This knowledge will give you the ability to serve the common good as you pass through life."

"Providence is very kind to me in effect," replied Appleton, lightly.

"The Father of all is good to all, and kind even to the unthankful," said the friend, in answer. "Having made man, He knows what is in man, and what is best for him. In concealing from him what lies in the future, He has provided for his rational freedom. With a knowledge of coming events, all the active energies of his mind would sink under a moral paralysis. Can you not see this?"

"I see it all, all, it is but dimly."

"Is man's purpose, in the motive power of their lives, and all success, seemingly, depends on human prudence. The very uncertainty in which the future lies continually, and the living consciousness in each man's mind that upon active exertion alone he must depend for the temporal good desired, nerves hand and heart with enlivening energy. Thus, each man's peculiar ability to serve society is developed while he is seeking his own ends. Each man, because all the future is to him a hidden thing, and because he believes that he can make his own future condition prosperous or otherwise, according as he wisely improves the present time, labors in the common cause of establishing the social well being. Thus, the good of the whole is attained through the efforts of individuals to secure a personal good. But, unless Providence is very kind to me in effect," replied Appleton, lightly.

"The Father of all is good to all, and kind even to the unthankful," said the friend, in answer. "Having made man, He knows what is in man, and what is best for him. In concealing from him what lies in the future, He has provided for his rational freedom. With a knowledge of coming events, all the active energies of his mind would sink under a moral paralysis. Can you not see this?"

"I see it all, all, it is but dimly."

"Is man's purpose, in the motive power of their lives, and all success, seemingly, depends on human prudence. The very uncertainty in which the future lies continually, and the living consciousness in each man's mind that upon active exertion alone he must depend for the temporal good desired, nerves hand and heart with enlivening energy. Thus, each man's peculiar ability to serve society is developed while he is seeking his own ends. Each man, because all the future is to him a hidden thing, and because he believes that he can make his own future condition prosperous or otherwise, according as he wisely improves the present time, labors in the common cause of establishing the social well being. Thus, the good of the whole is attained through the efforts of individuals to secure a personal good. But, unless good or evil that is before him, and you rob him of his motive power. He has no longer an end impelling him to action."

"Not a very flattering doctrine that of yours, friend Jasper," said Appleton.

"Why do you say this?"

"You make every man a kind of a common servant; a hod-carrier, or working mason on the great edifice of human society."

"You express the truth in a homely way."

"That is your doctrine, then?"

"No man really works for himself. All that we do is a service to others. In fact, as you said, every man is a sort of common servant. Are you poring over this dry pathology in order to learn the nature of disease, that you may cure your own ailments?"

"Of course not. Yes; there is truth in what you say; but, it is a truth that I don't exactly relish. A common servant! Henry Appleton a social hod-carrier! Humph!"

"No, not a hod-carrier," smilingly replied Jasper. "Not even a mason. But a mender of cracked walls and impaired foundations."

"Flattering idea, isn't it? Ah, me!"

"To know that all our actions result in good to others," replied the friend, "should produce in our minds an unalloyed pleasure."

"Perhaps so. But I'm not so generous as all that. My business is to take care of myself, and I'll see that it is well done, if I keep in my present mind. But, to come back to this matter of the future. There are two things, as I said in the beginning, that I'd give almost the world to know. One I have mentioned, the other you may guess at if you happen to feel curious."

"A love affair, probably."

"Perhaps. Now, tell me, candidly, whether you think it possible, in any case, to lift the veil that conceals the future?"

"There have been prophetic indications of coming events, if we are to believe sacred as well as profane history."

"There have, undoubtedly. But has the time of seers and prophets gone by?"

"I think so."

"Why?"

"The necessity for an evidence to man's very senses, so to speak, that a spiritual world exists, no longer remains."

"Upon what do you base this opinion?"

"Upon the fact that mankind, in returning to the state of innocence, lost in the first declension from good, have reached a point, in the upward movement, where the mind can be sufficiently enlightened to comprehend rationally the fact that there is a spiritual as well as a natural world, between which is a mutual dependence. Signs, visions and prophecies, kept alive this belief in the darker times, when man was in a wilderness of ignorance and depravity; and, for this end, they were permitted."

"Then you do not apply the term superstitious, opprobriously to the ignorant in former times, who believed in things supernatural as they are called. That is, you do not think their superstition was an idle fancy."

"It was not, I am well satisfied, mere fancy in all cases, as some profess to believe. It did not arise from the credulity inseparable from ignorance."

"Philosophers of the present time attempt an explanation, upon natural grounds, of the alleged spiritual phenomena of the days of ignorance and superstition," said Appleton.

"I know; but the philosophy of the present time bases itself upon a foundation that almost abnegates such a thing as a spiritual world. This is seen in the fact, that an attempt is made to account for every thing on natural principles. And yet, even the gravitation of a seed, or the development of a flower, cannot be explained simply on the admission of a spiritual and invisible cause."

"But I not understand you to say," remarked Appleton, "that a period in the history of the world had arrived, when the mind could comprehend, rationally, the fact that there was a spiritual as well as a natural world. If so, why is the philosophy you speak of at fault?"

"Because it is a philosophy that seeks, in the pride of human intelligence, an answer to all its questions in the natural world, aided by the powers of the natural mind. It will not look beyond natural effects to the higher and true cause of things visible and tangible. Yet, for all, the general mind is ready for the admission. It only awaits the evidence, which is presenting itself, now, like the dim aurora, but soon to shine forth as bright as the risen sun. If philosophy is at fault, it is because philosophers have originated their notions in the pride of self-intelligence, not in the humble and earnest spirit of real truth-seekers."

Appleton mused for some time, and then asked:

"Among your seers and prophets, is your mind a priori truth, to overawe and control the people?"

"They may have been, to a great extent, so far as the priests were concerned, or, at least, some of the priests. But, that suggests and points to more even as the idle winds, that stirred among the tree-tops, I do not believe. The future was revealed, in some cases, just enough to show the darkened mind of the nation, that there was an invisible world, and a Supreme Power, with whom the destiny of the nation was tended. By this ever-present consciousness, the direful evil resulting in the debased will of the idolatrous and corrupt nations, was kept so far in chains that it did not break forth, and utterly destroy all of the truly human that yet remained, and which Providence was seeking to save and elevate by all means possible."

"Then, admitting your views to be correct, there have been given to the people of some ages glimpses into the future."

"Yes, and to some people of all ages."

"What!"

"And to some people of all ages."

"Then of the present age?" quickly remarked Appleton.

"Yes, even in the present age, be minds so constituted as to require this low evidence on the subject of a spiritual world, may be given a timely seer revelation of what is to come."

"There has," said Appleton, after again reflecting for some moments, and he spoke as if his mind were both abstracted and oppressed with the thoughts it entertained. "There has arrived in the city a man who calls himself an Astrologer. In the aspect of the heavens he reads men's destinies. By means of these aspects, he retrospects as well as predicts. In a word, he casts a man's nativity, and in, his whole life, past, present, and to come, is spread out as a map before him. This people say at him. You know Bartram?"

"Yes."

"He consulted him."

"Ah!"

"And came away frightened. I saw him on the next day, and he was still agitated. 'Appleton,' said he, 'that man has completely unhinged my mind. In his review of my past life, he was exactly correct; and he told me things that it was impossible for him to know, except through supernatural agency. Can I, then, doubt, as to the truth of what he has predicted? Two or three other acquaintances have also visited that seer, and all have come away wonder-stricken. Have you heard of him?"

"You mean the fellow who calls himself Zadiac?"

"Zadiac, yes, that is his name. But from all I hear, you speak of him too lightly. I hardly think him an impostor."

"All such fellows are impostors," replied Jasper. "If the truth were known, Zadiac would most probably turn out to be plain John Thompson, or Tom Johnson, recently from the sheep or hoeing. Too lazy to earn his bread in a useful calling, he has set up the trade of fortune-telling, as easier and more profitable."

"How is it that a lazy impostor can unveil the hidden secrets of a man's life, and draw the curtain of the future?" inquired Appleton.

"I am not so sure that he can do all that you allege?"

"Facts are stubborn things. Seeing is believing."

"We will admit that Zadiac is able to make instances to hit the very truth," said Jasper.—"But this makes him no less an impostor. In his heart he knows that he possesses not prescience—for that gift is bestowed upon no mortal. Therefore, when he gives forth predictions, he does it as an impostor. He merely opens his mouth, like the Pythoness of old on her tripod, and utters dark sayings, that have in them little meaning that he comprehends. He speaks, in fact, from evil spirits, whom his infernal calling has brought into association with his mind. He is, for the time, a medium through which they seek to communicate with the natural world. But, as even they have not the gift of foreknowledge, they cannot speak the truth only by what some might call an accident, but which, in reality, is a permission of Providence for some good end. What I think that end is, I have already stated."

"To keep alive in the mind an idea of a spiritual world?"

"Yes."

"Why do you speak of Zadiac's calling as infernal?"

"Because, in it he seeks to violate Divine order, which, to the end that man may be kept in rational freedom, wisely conceals from him a knowledge of future events."

"I begin to comprehend this matter more clearly," said Appleton, still very thoughtful.—"Occasionally a glance into the future is permitted for special ends; and men like Zadiac are the medium by which the revelation is made."

"Admit this; and all the same time remember that the state of mind which leads any one to seek for future revelations, is a perverted state, and, in itself, shows the intellect not to be well balanced."

"As to its being a perverted state," remarked Appleton, "that may or may not be. In my case, the desire to know have two important matters, involving most deeply my future happiness, will eventuate, exists; and the means of acquiring the knowledge I seek, seems to be within my reach. I said, that if I could find the chords that divert the veil of the future, I would fearlessly clutch them. I think, now, that I have found these cords. I will see Zadiac."

Jasper shook his head, disapprovingly.

"You cannot dissuade me, Jasper."

"Beware!" said the friend, solemnly.

"Beware of what?"

"That you are not made the sport of lying spirits. Whoever seeks to penetrate the future, comes within the sphere of evil, because he voluntarily goes beyond the sphere of order. Unhappiness is the sure result of this."

"I am not afraid."

"Many a man has said that, who, afterwards, found to his sorrow, that there was cause of fear."

"I am not afraid," repeated the young man.

"There is a time coming, Henry Appleton," said Jasper, "when, if you take the step you propose, you will repent of it bitterly. He advised by me, and let Zadiac and his companions in falsehood and evil alone."

"Who are his companions?"

"Lying and deceiving spirits."

"You talk strangely."

"There may come a time, when you will painfully regret not having paid a due regard to my strange language—which will seem to you, then, of deep meaning that now comes to your consciousness."

"I am content to abide that time, Jasper. At present, I am going to consult the Astrologer."

"You are a free man, Appleton. God has given you freedom, for a grand Moral purpose, that in your moments of calm reflection, advises the consultation of a pretended seer, follows its dictate. But I doubt exceedingly this self-approval."

"Whether reason approve or not," replied Appleton, "I shall do as I say. My present suspense is intolerable. Anything but this hanging on the tenter hooks of hope and fear."

"Beware! I repeat again."

"And, I repeat, as before, I am not afraid," said Appleton, hurriedly.

After some further conversation on the subject, the young men separated.

CHAPTER II.

In a narrow street, but little frequented, was a small, old fashioned house, to which had been the passage so at least a century. With a gable end to the street, sharply pitched roof, and small, pane-like windows, it stood a relic of earlier times, attracting the eye of the stranger who happened to wander near, by its contrast with the more modern buildings around.

This was the place chosen by Zadiac, the Astrologer, who had but recently made his appearance in the city. During his brief sojourn, his reputation as a seer, had spread itself through a wide circle, and crowds came to consult him in regard to the future.

A single hall led from the outer door, to the room in which Henry Appleton, true to his resolution, raised the heavy knocker on the Astrologer's door. He did not come in the broad day-light, for he wished to show observation. After waiting for some time, and just as he was about to lift his hand to the knocker again, the door was opened by a young girl, and he stepped in quickly.

"Can I see Zadiac?" he asked, as the door closed.

The girl merely inclined her head, and then went noiselessly before him along the passage and up a flight of stairs into a room in the second story. Pointing to a chair, on entering this room, and looking, rather than speaking, an invitation for him to occupy it, she turned quickly and glided away with footstep scarcely heard.

There was something chilling to Appleton in the atmosphere of this room. His breast labored in respiration. Yet the air of the apartment was pure and cool. The construction he felt came from an interior, and not an exterior cause. On a table burned a single dim lamp, made after an antique fashion, and it was so placed as to throw many parts of the room into deep shadow. On the walls hung a few old portraits; but the dubious light that fell upon their surface, was absorbed, rather than reflected. The scanty furniture was also of ancient date.

The stillness of the whole house was oppressive. Those came not from any just a sound—but came as if felt by the mind. Yet, he was not alone. For at least ten minutes Appleton remained seated. Then, without the sound of approaching footsteps having met his ear, another door from the one by which he had entered, turned on its silent hinges, and a small, sharp-featured old man, bearing in his hand a lamp of the same antique style as that upon the table, came in. The lamp was so held that the light fell upon his face, which was strongly marked; and was reflected brightly from his small, sunken, but searching eyes.

Appleton arose, instinctively, at his entrance, a feeling in his heart akin to awe.

"Zadiac?" said he, in a tone half affirmation, half inquiry.

The seer gravely inclined his head.

"I wish to consult you."

Zadiac again moved his head, and, turning, motioned with his hand toward the room from which he had just come.

Appleton followed, and, as he passed through the door, it closed behind him, unseen as by an visible hand. The walls of the apartment in which he was now alone with the seer, were covered with hieroglyphical forms and astronomical diagrams. On a table stood a planisarium in motion, beside which were many old books in heavy clasps and sombre binding. One of these books was open, and Appleton saw that it was in black letter, and the page covered with illuminations.

"You wish to consult Zadiac," said the old man, after Appleton was seated, and he had taken a chair before him.

"I have come for that purpose," was replied.

"In the stars man's destiny is written," returned the seer, "and it has been given to Zadiac to read the stars. By long years of patient study, shut out from association with men, Zadiac has fathomed the mysteries of the ancient times, and made the occult sciences his own."

"And Zadiac can read the future?"

"He can. But, for every one to look into the future, it is not possible to bring it forward at the present time?"

"Time; and now, you must read for me the heavens in their present aspect. I have two important suits pending. Shall I gain them? I state plainly my business; for, I want no guesswork in the matter. I have an inward dictate that consistains a belief in pure science, and, therefore, I pay, freely all information that will lead to a satisfactory result. One suit is in the court of hymen, the other at law."

Zadiac immediately erected another figure of the heavens, this time consulting an ephemeris. After doing so, he read off the result in Astrological terms, which was all so much unmeaning jargon to the querist.

"Give it to me in plain English, Zadiac! I want it in plain English," said Appleton, impatiently.

"Both suits will prosper," replied Zadiac, "for Saturn in conjunction indicates a malignant influence, and the existence of difficulties."

"Difficulties are of no account where success lies in the future. Then I am to gain the suit at law?"

"You are."

"And that in the court of hymen, also?"

"So the stars affirm, and they never lie."

"Thanks, Zadiac, for this trial of your skill in penetrating the future. I feel as if a mountain were removed from my breast."

The Astrologer appeared not in the least affected by this enthusiasm of his visitor, but maintained his solemn, occult dignity.

"Will that compensate for the important information you have given?" Appleton handed the keen eyed old man half an eagle.

"This more than compensates me," replied Zadiac.

"Keep it," quickly returned the young man. "It is a small sum to pay for so great a good."

"To know the future is not always good," said Zadiac.

"I am content to receive all the evil this foreknowledge will bring."

"Do not forget," said Zadiac, "the malignant influence of Saturn. That star has power over your destiny. Upon your own acts, remember, also, that much of your future will depend."

"I am to gain these suits?"

"Already I have told you as much," returned Zadiac.

"Enough. Let Saturn glare upon me with an evil eye; that star does not rule my destiny."

And the young man arose, and after again thanking the old Astrologer for his services withdrew from the house. Now, and strange as now, were the feelings that agitated his bosom while walking thoroughfares of the city. The process through which his mind had come—as well in the conversation with Jasper as in his interview with Zadiac—had made him credulous to a degree that would have surprised even himself, had he not had, to some extent, the power of calmer thought. Blindedly and implicitly did he believe what he had heard. In seeking the Astrologer, his mind became freed from doubts as to astral influences which had arisen naturally when first receiving the subject, and he reposed now, in the hope of certainty.

It is not a matter of surprise that Appleton slept but little during the night, not that his mind on the morning day, was so excited that he could not continue at a sentence in the medical books he attempted to study, or in the lectures he vainly tried to bring within his mental perceptions. He was to be successful in his two suits; what else was there in life worth caring for?

CHAPTER III.

Six months previous to the time when our story opens, Henry Appleton, a young student of medicine with an income barely sufficient to meet his wants, was in the habit of consulting the columns of a newspaper, doubtless there are few, comparatively, who are acquainted with its origin. According to D'Israeli, we are indebted to the Italians for the idea; although, in ancient Rome, reports of important events, and the doings of the Senate, were frequently published under the title of "Acta Diurna." The personal press properly commenced at Venice and Augsburg, Germany, in 1524; these bulletins, were, however, not printed. Thirty volumes of these manuscript newspapers existed in the Magliechechian library, at Florence. About the year 1563, at the suggestion of the father of the celebrated Montaigne, offices were first established, in France, for the purpose of making the wants of individuals known to each other. The advertisements received were pasted on the wall to attract attention; as in the case of the Romans, this ultimately led to a systematic and periodical publication of advertisements in sheets. The epoch of the Spanish Armada, is also the epoch of the first Orthodox newspaper. In the British Museum are several newspapers printed while the Spanish fleet was in the English Channel, during the year 1588. It was strictly the organ of the Government, and, probably, its leading editor might have been "the great Lord Burghley." It was entitled "The English Mercurie." The earliest specimen referred to in the British Museum is marked No. 10, and is in Roman, not black letter; and, as to its contents, it might almost be supposed the model of the "London Gazette" of the present day. During the reign of James I., newspapers in the quarto form were occasionally issued; but during the thirty years' war, when the exploits of Gustavus Adolphus attracted the eyes of the civilized world we had a regular weekly paper edited by Nathaniel Butler, and published under the title of "The Certain News of the Present Week," which may be regarded as the first regular weekly newspaper.

During the civil war in England in 1643, there, were, however, a score of these "Diurnals" and "Mercuries" in circulation. The titles were quaint and curious, such as the following

"Truths from York," "Warranted Tidings from Ireland," "Special Passages from Various Places," and numerous others of a more ludicrous character.

So important an auxiliary was the press considered, indeed, that each of the rival armies carried a printer along with it. In the reign of Queen Anne, 1702, there was but one daily paper published in London, the others being weekly issues. Swift subsidized politics as an essential element of the press, and Addison sought to devote it to purely literary purposes—the result has been the establishment of distinct vehicles for both. The first journal having the character of a magazine, or review, was the "Journal des Savants," established in Paris 1665; in England the first monthly of this sort appeared in 1704. From these simple elements, has grown up an engine whose potency and influence is now felt throughout all climes of the civilized world.—*New York Morning Post.*

☞ A late San Francisco letter says that the men at that place are usually dressed, and wear, generally, boots coming up to the hips, the price of which there is $50.

Our Picture Gallery.

MARCH OF THE SIOUX.

FROM FROST'S "THRILLING ADVENTURES AMONG THE INDIANS."

The Crow and Sioux Indians, like most tribes who subsist by hunting, are obliged to move frequently from place to place; and the manner in which they perform one of the migrations is both singular and amusing. The appointment of the time of starting is left in a great measure to the chief. A few hours before it arrives, he sends criers through the village, announcing his determination to move, and at the same time places the signal, always observed on such occasions, at his wigwam. The whole village is now in commotion. Provisions, household goods, and clothing are bundled together; dogs and horses are yoked to burdens twice their own size; children are slung in sacks, and placed on their mothers' backs—and each one is speedily loaded with the burden, never a very inconsiderable one, which he is to bear to the new settlement. The usual order of arrangement is as follows—The poles of a lodge are divided into two bunches. The little ends of each bunch are fastened upon the shoulders of a horse, leaving the other ends to drag upon the ground on each side. Behind the horse a cross-piece connects the bunches, and keeps them in their place. On the bunches are placed the lodge or tent, rolled up, sundry huge articles of household stuffs, and three or four women and children. To lead each horse, which, under the circumstances, would appear absolutely necessary, a woman goes before, holding the bridle, and carrying on her shoulders a load similar in size to that of the horse. Occasionally the animal carries another woman upon his back, in whose arms is a young papoose, affectionately embracing a favorite dog. In this manner, five or six hundred wigwams, with all their furniture, are moved many miles at once. The cavalcade is drawn out to an immense distance, the men mounted on good horses, numbering more than a thousand, and the number of canine assistants at least five times that number. Each dog has to bear part of the general burden. Two poles about fifteen feet long are placed upon his shoulders, in the same manner as the lodge-poles are attached to the horses, leaving the larger ends to drag upon the ground behind him. On these is placed a bundle, with which he trots off, keeping up with the caravan until night, and only stopping when there seems prospect of a battle with some of his companions. This is a fair specimen of the better deal of savage life. In the worst kind, the women do the work done among the Sioux to a great degree by horses.

"I am ready to meet the good or the evil," said the young man, in a firm voice. Yet, could the Astrologer have seen his heart, he would have perceived that it trembled and shrunk from the trial about to be made.

"Do you know the day and hour of your birth?" asked Zadiac, after he had fixed, for some time, in silence, his small, glittering eyes upon the face of Appleton.

"I can give you the day," replied the young man.

"The hour is of importance. A knowledge of the aspect of the heavens at the very moment of birth, is requisite, if we would read the future accurately. Is there not a family record?"

"Yes; and now I remember that my birth took place, according to this record, at four o'clock in the morning."

"That is well," briefly remarked the Astrologer.

He then placed before him, on the table, a square piece of paper, on which was a circular figure, marked with the signs of the Zodiac, and divided into twelve compartments by lines meeting at the centre. Next he consulted, with evident care, an old volume, now and then making certain astronomical signs upon the paper. This occupied him for some time. Then looking gravely at his visitor, he said, oracularly,

"Jupiter, lord of the ascendant, in the Seventh House, and the Part of Fortune right. Thus it was at your birth."

"Does that portend good or evil?" inquired Appleton.

"Good. You have come to consult me on two matters in which your future well-being and happiness are deeply involved?"

"True; and now, you must read for me the heavens in their present aspect. I have two important suits pending. Shall I gain them? I state plainly my business; for, I want no guesswork in the matter. I have an inward dictate that consistains a belief in pure science, and, therefore, I pay, freely all information that will lead to a satisfactory result. One suit is in the court of hymen, the other at law."

Zadiac immediately erected another figure of the heavens, this time consulting an ephemeris. After doing so, he read off the result in Astrological terms, which was all so much unmeaning jargon to the querist.

"Give it to me in plain English, Zadiac! I want it in plain English," said Appleton, impatiently.

"Both suits will prosper," replied Zadiac, "for Saturn in conjunction indicates a malignant influence, and the existence of difficulties."

"Difficulties are of no account where success lies in the future. Then I am to gain the suit at law?"

"You are."

"And that in the court of hymen, also?"

"So the stars affirm, and they never lie."

"Thanks, Zadiac, for this trial of your skill in penetrating the future. I feel as if a mountain were removed from my breast."

The Astrologer appeared not in the least affected by this enthusiasm of his visitor, but maintained his solemn, occult dignity.

"Will that compensate for the important information you have given?" Appleton handed the keen eyed old man half an eagle.

"This more than compensates me," replied Zadiac.

"Keep it," quickly returned the young man. "It is a small sum to pay for so great a good."

"To know the future is not always good," said Zadiac.

"I am content to receive all the evil this foreknowledge will bring."

"Do not forget," said Zadiac, "the malignant influence of Saturn. That star has power over your destiny. Upon your own acts, remember, also, that much of your future will depend."

"I am to gain these suits?"

"Already I have told you as much," returned Zadiac.

"Enough. Let Saturn glare upon me with an evil eye; that star does not rule my destiny."

And the young man arose, and after again thanking the old Astrologer for his services withdrew from the house. Now, and strange as now, were the feelings that agitated his bosom while walking thoroughfares of the city. The process through which his mind had come—as well in the conversation with Jasper as in his interview with Zadiac—had made him credulous to a degree that would have surprised even himself, had he not had, to some extent, the power of calmer thought. Blindedly and implicitly did he believe what he had heard. In seeking the Astrologer, his mind became freed from doubts as to astral influences which had arisen naturally when first receiving the subject, and he reposed now, in the hope of certainty.

It is not a matter of surprise that Appleton slept but little during the night, not that his mind on the morning day, was so excited that he could not continue at a sentence in the medical books he attempted to study, or in the lectures he vainly tried to bring within his mental perceptions. He was to be successful in his two suits; what else was there in life worth caring for?

CHAPTER III.

Six months previous to the time when our story opens, Henry Appleton, a young student of medicine with an income barely sufficient to meet his wants, was in the habit of consulting the columns of a newspaper, doubtless there are few, comparatively, who are acquainted with its origin. According to D'Israeli, we are indebted to the Italians for the idea; although, in ancient Rome, reports of important events, and the doings of the Senate, were frequently published under the title of "Acta Diurna." The personal press properly commenced at Venice and Augsburg, Germany, in 1524; these bulletins, were, however, not printed. Thirty volumes of these manuscript newspapers existed in the Magliechechian library, at Florence. About the year 1563, at the suggestion of the father of the celebrated Montaigne, offices were first established, in France, for the purpose of making the wants of individuals known to each other. The advertisements received were pasted on the wall to attract attention; as in the case of the Romans, this ultimately led to a systematic and periodical publication of advertisements in sheets. The epoch of the Spanish Armada, is also the epoch of the first Orthodox newspaper. In the British Museum are several newspapers printed while the Spanish fleet was in the English Channel, during the year 1588. It was strictly the organ of the Government, and, probably, its leading editor might have been "the great Lord Burghley." It was entitled "The English Mercurie." The earliest specimen referred to in the British Museum is marked No. 10, and is in Roman, not black letter; and, as to its contents, it might almost be supposed the model of the "London Gazette" of the present day. During the reign of James I., newspapers in the quarto form were occasionally issued; but during the thirty years' war, when the exploits of Gustavus Adolphus attracted the eyes of the civilized world we had a regular weekly paper edited by Nathaniel Butler, and published under the title of "The Certain News of the Present Week," which may be regarded as the first regular weekly newspaper.

During the civil war in England in 1643, there, were, however, a score of these "Diurnals" and "Mercuries" in circulation. The titles were quaint and curious, such as the following

"Truths from York," "Warranted Tidings from Ireland," "Special Passages from Various Places," and numerous others of a more ludicrous character.

So important an auxiliary was the press considered, indeed, that each of the rival armies carried a printer along with it. In the reign of Queen Anne, 1702, there was but one daily paper published in London, the others being weekly issues. Swift subsidized politics as an essential element of the press, and Addison sought to devote it to purely literary purposes—the result has been the establishment of distinct vehicles for both. The first journal having the character of a magazine, or review, was the "Journal des Savants," established in Paris 1665; in England the first monthly of this sort appeared in 1704. From these simple elements, has grown up an engine whose potency and influence is now felt throughout all climes of the civilized world.—*New York Morning Post.*

☞ A late San Francisco letter says that the men at that place are usually dressed, and wear, generally, boots coming up to the hips, the price of which there is $50.

Selected Articles.

THE LANGUGE OF ANIMALS.

It is often asked why animals have not the power of speech. This is taking it for granted that they have it not. From a few facts, however, it is easily proved that, although they may not have the faculty of articulation, like men, yet they have a way of communicating their ideas.—These classes of animals seem to possess this power in the most remarkable degree, that live together in communities or societies, as to them it would of course be most necessary.

Bees are able to make different sounds by the means of their feelers, and these sounds convey various meanings. When they are about to swarm, scouts are sent out to find a suitable location; these return, report what they have seen, a buzzing noise is made, and the whole swarm start for the place on which the scouts have fixed. A wasp, which has found some store of food, has been observed to go to its nest, and in some way impart such information to its associates that they have flown to the place in a body.

Ants possess this faculty in a still greater degree. When they are at work, there is evidently a communication between the master-workmen and the laborers. So when an army of them is moving, the march is conducted with a regularity that would be impossible unless they understood each other. At a given signal from the leaders, they are seen to quicken their pace; scouts are despatched, reinforcements brought up, messages sent from one portion to another, insomuch that the various movements seem almost to be directed by human intelligence. An ant that has found a piece of food too large to be carried by itself unassisted, will return to its nest, and bring to its aid several of its comrades. Dr. Franklin gives us an instance in point. He had suspended a pot of molasses by a string from the ceiling, in order to preserve it from the ants. One of the troublesome visitors had remained on the pot, and was seen ascending the string, and betaking itself to its hole. Not many moments had elapsed before a large company of ants were discerned making their way to the extremity of the string; they descended to the pot, eat their fill, and then gave way to another band of their hungry fraternity. It would seem, in this case, that information must have been given by the first discoverer.

A crow perched on a lofty limb, while its companions are feeding, will, by a single note, which is at once understood and acted on, give notice of approaching danger. Indeed the note of danger is one which all animals seem to understand. A hen, by her well known calls, will collect her chickens under her wings, as unpolished as a human mother can gather her children by words. "The swallow," says an observant naturalist, "that, shrieking, darts in devious flight through the air when a hawk appears, not only calls up the harmless of the village, but is instantly understood by every hack and sparrow, and its warning is attended to."

Mr. Loudon's Magazine of Natural History relates many cases of the communication among animals, and one so much to the point that we cannot resist quoting it.

"An old goose that had been for a fortnight hatching in a farmer's kitchen, was perceived on a sudden to be taken violently ill. She soon after left the nest, and repaired to an out-house, where there was a young goose of the first year, which she brought with her into the kitchen. The young one immediately scrambled into the old one's nest, sat, hatched, and afterwards brought up the brood. The old goose, as soon as the young goose had taken her place, sat down by the side of the nest, and soon after died. As the young goose had never been in the habit of entering the kitchen before, I know of no way of accounting for this fact, than by supposing that the two had some way of communicating their thoughts and anxieties, which the other was perfectly able to understand."

Cattle have been known to hold a consultation and agree upon a course of action, such as making a simultaneous attack upon any malcontent or ill-natured ones of their number.

A dog, which on one occasion received rather hard treatment from a large and fierce neighbor, soon after returned to the place where he had received the injury, with a friend stronger than himself to avenge the wrong.

These are but a few of the cases on record, but they suffice to show that animals have some means of communicating with each other, either by sounds, expression, or gesture. What these means are, we cannot say; but future discoveries in science will no doubt make them clear.—*Lit. Gazette.*

ORIGIN OF NEWSPAPERS.

Among the millions who are in the habit of consulting the columns of a newspaper, doubtless there are few, comparatively, who are acquainted with its origin. According to D'Israeli, we are indebted to the Italians for the idea; although, in ancient Rome, reports of important events, and the doings of the Senate, were frequently published under the title of "Acta Diurna." The personal press properly commenced at Venice and Augsburg, Germany, in 1524; these bulletins, were, however, not printed. Thirty volumes of these manuscript newspapers existed in the Magliechechian library, at Florence. About the year 1563, at the suggestion of the father of the celebrated Montaigne, offices were first established, in France, for the purpose of making the wants of individuals known to each other. The advertisements received were pasted on the wall to attract attention; as in the case of the Romans, this ultimately led to a systematic and periodical publication of advertisements in sheets. The epoch of the Spanish Armada, is also the epoch of the first Orthodox newspaper. In the British Museum are several newspapers printed while the Spanish fleet was in the English Channel, during the year 1588. It was strictly the organ of the Government, and, probably, its leading editor might have been "the great Lord Burghley." It was entitled "The English Mercurie." The earliest specimen referred to in the British Museum is marked No. 10, and is in Roman, not black letter; and, as to its contents, it might almost be supposed the model of the "London Gazette" of the present day. During the reign of James I., newspapers in the quarto form were occasionally issued; but during the thirty years' war, when the exploits of Gustavus Adolphus attracted the eyes of the civilized world we had a regular weekly paper edited by Nathaniel Butler, and published under the title of "The Certain News of the Present Week," which may be regarded as the first regular weekly newspaper.

During the civil war in England in 1643, there, were, however, a score of these "Diurnals" and "Mercuries" in circulation. The titles were quaint and curious, such as the following

"Truths from York," "Warranted Tidings from Ireland," "Special Passages from Various Places," and numerous others of a more ludicrous character.

So important an auxiliary was the press considered, indeed, that each of the rival armies carried a printer along with it. In the reign of Queen Anne, 1702, there was but one daily paper published in London, the others being weekly issues. Swift subsidized politics as an essential element of the press, and Addison sought to devote it to purely literary purposes—the result has been the establishment of distinct vehicles for both. The first journal having the character of a magazine, or review, was the "Journal des Savants," established in Paris 1665; in England the first monthly of this sort appeared in 1704. From these simple elements, has grown up an engine whose potency and influence is now felt throughout all climes of the civilized world

Original Sketches.

MEN AND THINGS IN ENGLAND.

BY D. W. BARTLETT.

MACAULAY.

Thomas Babington Macaulay occupies in the British literary world a brilliant and first position. In his department of letters, there is no man in Britain whose head is higher than his shoulders, and every one admits it. As a gorgeous writer, a magnificent historical critic, he has no superior in the world, and it is doubtful if he has an equal.

His personal appearance is very striking. His body is rather small—too much so to comport well with the size of his intellect—small in height, I mean, for he is slightly corpulent. His head is one of the finest in Britain. It is very large and intellectual, and yet, at the same time, is full of a certain animality. His face is oval, and full—his eyes are very beautiful, and his hair, soft and fine, which, according to the phrenologists, is a sign of exquisite nerves, such as Macaulay is known to possess. His carriage is genteel and dignified; he dresses plainly, never ostentatiously; his manners, so far as one can judge from his general appearance, are those of a perfect gentleman.

In Macaulay's early life his father was quite intimate with Lord Brougham, and, from the first, Brougham predicted that he was to become a great and famous man. The prophetic saying is a compliment to Brougham's keenness of perception and foresight. He predicted that young Macaulay would excel as a writer and as an orator. Subsequent events have fully justified the predictions, for Macaulay is not only celebrated as a splendid writer, but also as a fine orator.—Brougham, at that time, was a glorious Reformer and Liberal, and the father of the present Macaulay sympathized with him in his feelings and opinions. Macaulay grew up into a Reformer, but exactly a Radical but a Conservative Reformer—a Liberal of mild and steady views.—Brougham recommended to him the practice of reciting speeches alone, if he wished to succeed as a parliamentary orator, and confessed that that was the secret of his success. Macaulay profited by Brougham's advice, studied his speeches, and recited them alone, or before a few critical friends. He never wearied, never flagged in his perseverance, but looked steadily to the end which was the earning of a good fame as a parliamentary orator. He was elected in due season to Parliament, and his first speech brought down the House in rapturous applause. The speech was characterized, even by his enemies, as full of brilliancy, sound argument and gorgeous illustrations. It took the House and the world by surprise.—Macaulay, as an orator,—like Byron as a poet—woke up the next morning after the performance, and found himself famous. Everywhere, in all quarters, he was the subject of praise. Yet many doubted the depth of his intellect then and do now, and with a good deal of reason, too.—To Macaulay's everlasting praise it must be written, that his greatest speeches—speeches burning with eloquence, with a dazzling profusion of brilliants—were made in support of liberty and the people's cause. In the terrible times of the Reform Bill, he was its most popular advocate in the House of Commons. His speeches, which were the most effective of any made there, excited the applause of the stiffest Tories in the House; not for their sentiments, but for their brilliancy and splendor as oratorical performances. He was in the House of Commons when Brougham was in the House of Lords—an eloquent and convincing defender of the people.—Macaulay ever remained, to a certain degree, liberal, but Brougham apostatized, deserted the people, and lost the almost giddy position awarded him by the whole British Nation.

Macaulay was finally taken into the care of the Whig Ministry, and held an important office while the representative of the Electors of Glasgow in the House of Commons. His course while a member of the Government, displeased his Scotch Electors, who were imbued most thoroughly with the spirit of his writings, which was that of reform and liberty. Macaulay settled down into a kind of Russell "finality." Office seemed to act like an opiate on his vigilance and his strong love of progress and perfect liberty. The Scotchmen would not have his indifference to what, in their eyes, was all important. His brilliancy as an orator, his splendor as an author, could not save him from the disgrace of a non-election. A plain tradesman ran in opposition to him. This touched Macaulay's pride, for he is one of the proudest men in the world. He is morbidly sensitive on this point. He could not bear to think that a mere tradesman, and plain man of the people, should defeat him in an election of so much consequence. But the electors came; his friends rallied as a stone nathless; every thing was done which could be done to secure his triumph over his opponent. But the Scotch Electors were not to be trifled with, and they returned Mr. Cowan, his opponent, and Macaulay was thrown from the political world into the literary, which is his appropriate sphere.

It was a terrible stroke to his self-love, but his sensitive feelings were somewhat soothed by the receipt of the great honor of being elected to the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University.—Literary honors look better upon his brow than political. He has been distinguished as a politician and as a parliamentary speaker; but his real greatness lies in his power of composition. His essays and critiques which were published in the Edinburg Review, are among the very finest things in the English language. It is not temerity to say, that they will live as long as the language is spoken in which they are written. Those who are familiar with his miscellaneous writings, will remember that his criticism of Croker's Life of Johnson is of the most savage species. It provoked Croker exceedingly, who said that personal prejudices called it forth. At that time Croker was in Parliament, and made bitter speeches against Macaulay and his party, but there is little doubt about the justice of the criticism. Lately Croker had his revenge in an almost indecent, by bitter critique on the first two volumes of Macaulay's History of England. The article is a good specimen of what an injured man—or one who imagines himself so—in the literary world, can do to relieve his pent-up feelings—expend his revenge upon a fool. The character of Macaulay's writings is beyond the reach of common criticism. His essays are a glory to all nations who speak and write the English language. His articles on Hastings, Byron, Mitchess, Milton, &c., &c., are full of splendid images, splendid diction, and clear and convincing thought. It astonishes one to read some of his best papers. There is a power of expression, a fullness, a completeness of diction, a stately eloquence, a gorgeousness in embellishment, which carries the heart and head away by storm. He is the prince of writers, and will remain so for years. When a young brain, which aspires to literary fame, ponders over his writings, a sense of nothingness comes over it—a feeling that if she be what insures literary fame, one common mortal may hope for it. He seems to be always full to the overflowing of ideas, arguments and fine similes. He never wrote a sentence which was senseless, and he has written many which have half-dozen ideas in each. And yet, after all this, Macaulay is not a very deep man; his splendor is oftentimes not to be trusted; his brightness in many times like the glare of a meteor, beautiful to gaze at, but false and unworthy of faith.

He is probably paid for his writings as well as any man in Europe, with, perhaps, the exception of Dickens. For his recent History of England, (yet incomplete) he receives from his publisher, a very large sum.

As a man, in private life, Macaulay is beloved and honored. He is a star in every literary drawing-room, and is welcome in the highest assemblies that ever gather in England or Europe. He has earned this position by talents and perseverance.

WOMEN IN CALIFORNIA—GAMBLING, &C.—We have had quite an influx of the fair sex recently, by sea and by land, and when the weather becomes settled and the streets dry, an elegantly dressed lady will be longer be a rare sight. It is quite amusing to see the Chilian and Mexican women dress here. Their plain, unostentatious costumes have given place to the most costly and elegant India shawls, their plain calico frocks to the rich satins and satins, while from their ears sparkle precious gems in lieu of the cheap wasteful French jewelry they used to wear—diamonds displace glass. One of the most recent dodges is to have women at the gaming table as lures, and in several establishments may be seen a pretty, richly-dressed señorita, bejewelled enough to excite the envy of an English dowager, dealing at monte, shuffling the cards, smiling upon the loser and nodding the winner. All is done that comes to their net. With respect to gaming, I cannot perceive any diminution; in fact, according to my ideas, it is on the increase. Scarcely a new house opens, that some of the principal rooms are not occupied by Faro, Roulette, A. B. C. Bonds, Monte, "Finger-at-em" tables. It is said that there are so many "sporting men" here, that it is a perfect Kilkenny cat business among them; but I am convinced that such is not the case. It will not be long—perhaps not a year—before a dead set will be made upon the gamesters, which will be worse than the Mississippi affair. If it should be the case, they cannot complain, for there is scarcely a professional among them that has not laboured to steal from pigeons most confoundedly.—*San Francisco Letter to the New Orleans Picayune.*

WHERE IS THE WILDERNESS?—At the beginning of this century it was in Ohio and Indiana.—Twenty-five years afterwards it was in Michigan, Wisconsin, and so forth. Last year it was in Minnesota Territory. Next year we shall have to seek it in Nebraska and around the Lake of the Woods.

Where the steamboat goes, there the wilderness disappears. And the steamboat is soon to startle the Indian, and wake the echoes of the forest above the Falls of the St. Anthony; for a boat is now building there which the St. Paul "Chronicle and Register" of the 19th January says "is rapidly progressing." The time for launching her has even been fixed—"as soon as the river is clear of ice." The builder hails from Bangor, Maine, the opposite outpoverty of the Union due East, and is said to be "a highly skillful workman." The dimensions of the craft are 130 feet keel, 120 feet deck, 25 feet beam, and will draw twelve inches light. The machinery is in course of construction at Bangor, and will be at the Falls at the opening of navigation.

Steam navigation "river trade" above the Falls of the St. Anthony! Poetry may as well gather up its garments and emigrate from *this* land, unless it can be content to find its themes in the workshop and the crowded street.—*Cincinnati Gazette.*

THE MISSISSIPPI: UNLIKE ALL OTHER RIVERS.—A river that runs East or West crosses no parallels of latitude, consequently, as it flows towards the sea, it does not change its climate, and keeps in the same climate, the crops that are cultivated at its mouth, are grown also at its sources, and from one end to the other of it there is no variety of productions; it is all wheat and corn, or wine, or oil, or some other staple. Assorted cargoes, therefore, cannot be made up from the produce which such a river brings down the market. On the other hand, a river that runs North and South crosses parallels of latitude; changes its climate at every turn; and as the traveller descends it, he sees every day new agricultural staples abounding. Such a river bears down to the sea a variety of productions, some of which, some one or another of the different nations of the earth is sure to want, and for which each one will send to the markets at its mouth, or the port whence they are distributed over the world. The assortments of merchandise afforded by such a river, are the life of commerce. They give it energy, activity, and scope. Such a river is the Mississippi, and the Mississippi is the only such river in the world. —*Literary World.*

Clippings.

☞ Mr. Sawyer, a member of the Massachusetts Legislature from Berlin, is the stage driver from that town to Acton. He leaves Berlin every morning with his stage, and reaches Acton in season for the Boston cars from Fitchburg, which arrives in Boston about 9 o'clock, giving him two hours to deliver his packages, (for he it known, he runs an express in connection with his stage.) At eleven he his always found in his seat, ready to attend to the affairs of State, so far as Berlin is concerned. He is an enterprising Legislator.

☞ A stranger passing through one of the mountain towns of New England, inquired, "What do you raise here?" The answer was, "Land is rough and poor, we can raise but little produce, and so we build school-houses and churches and raise men."

☞ An infidel remarked, within the hearing of a little girl of thirteen, that all things came by chance, and that the world, like a mushroom, sprang up in the night. "I should like to know, sir," she asked, "where the seed came from."

☞ Said one merchant, "I have done business ten years, and not spent five dollars in advertising." Said another, "I have been business ten years, and spent one-tenth of all my profits in advertising, and have made more money than you have made in ten."

☞ THE LAW OF KINDNESS IN SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.—An observing friend had the pleasure of visiting Ward School, No. 19, in Broome Street, on Tuesday week, where he found the most perfect order and discipline enforced without the use of the rod. This Free School is under the conduct of Mr. J. D. Demill, Miss H. M. Goodley and Miss Jane Rutherford, as Principals, and has been in operation about three years, without a blow having been struck.—*New York Tribune.*

☞ Captain W. W. Wood, of Houston, has invented a steam wagon, intended to transport cotton across the prairies between Houston and the Brazos. The inventor estimates its capacity at one hundred bales, and its speed at twenty miles an hour. At a meeting of the citizens of Houston, five practical mechanics were appointed to examine and report on the practicability and probable cost of the invention.

☞ Professor Leverrier, the discoverer of the planet which should bear his name, but which the English wish to call Neptune, has ascertained that the sun is subject to perturbation.

☞ Somebody remarked to the Editor of a defiant magazine that the public was just beginning to have confidence in it. "I know it," quoth he, "but I couldn't live any longer on confidence."

☞ During the debate upon the liquor duty in Paris, a statement was made, based upon official information, that there are at the present time in France, 380,000 establishments for the sale of various liquors.

☞ A Western editor observes, that if a man who has a pretty wife, two pigs, a cow, and a fat baby, is not satisfied, he never will be until he takes a newspaper.

☞ HAPPINESS IN MODERATION.—As it is better to rest in health, straightened on a narrow pallet, than to roll in sickness on a wide bed; so it is better to be cheerful with little wealth, than to be miserable with great.

☞ JOHN CALVIN'S CHURCH IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.—The Church in Geneva, in which John Calvin preached, who in the sixteenth century caused Servetus, a Unitarian, to be burned at the stake, for his alleged heresy, has been some time, and is now, occupied by a Unitarian congregation. —*N. Y. Express.*

☞ A new Divorce Bill has passed the House of Representatives of Massachusetts. It provides that if any married person shall join any religious community who do not believe in the sanctity of the marriage relation, and shall continue so to live for three consecutive years, the person so deserted shall be deemed divorced by the marriage contract. The provision is said to have reference more especially to the community of Shakers.

☞ A travelling correspondent of the Columbia (S. C.) Telegraph says: "About midway between Lancaster C. H. and Cheraw, S. C., within a short distance of the road, in the spot where President Jackson first saw the light, and 17 miles further on bridge or fairly within the 'Old North State,' and on the road to a distinguished cabin where James K. Polk was born."

☞ Complaining of adverse fortune, keeps fortune adverse. A happy disposition, to improve opportunities sooner or later, seldom fails of success.

☞ "There is a great demand," said a Yankee pedlar, "for a species of plaster which will enable gentlemen to stick to their business."

☞ A ridiculous story is going the rounds, that Mrs. Abbott Lawrence, wife of the American Minister to the Court of St. James, has incurred a severe rebuke from the lord chamberlain for hugging and kissing the royal children, and recommending her tea cakes to Prince Albert as being good for a pain in the tummy. Similar things have occasionally shocked the sensibilities of Queen Victoria's Court.

☞ A traveling correspondent of the Columbia (S. C.) Telegraph says: "About midway between Lancaster C. H. and Cheraw, S. C., within a short distance of the road, in the spot where President Jackson first saw the light, and 17 miles further on bridge or fairly within the 'Old North State,' and on the road to a distinguished cabin where James K. Polk was born." [illegible]

☞ Complaining of adverse fortune, keeps fortune adverse. A happy disposition, to improve opportunities sooner or later, seldom fails of success.

☞ "There is a great demand," said a Yankee pedlar, "for a species of plaster which will enable gentlemen to stick to their business." [illegible]

☞ A ridiculous story is going the rounds, that Mrs. Abbott Lawrence, wife of the American Minister to the Court of St. James, has incurred a severe rebuke from the lord chamberlain for hugging and kissing the royal children, and recommending her tea cakes to Prince Albert as being good for a pain in the tummy. Similar things have occasionally shocked the sensibilities of Queen Victoria's Court.

☞ THE LAW OF KINDNESS IN SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.—An observing friend had the pleasure of visiting Ward School, No. 19, in Broome Street, on Tuesday week, where he found the most perfect order and discipline enforced without the use of the rod. This Free School is under the conduct of Mr. J. D. Demill, Miss H. M. Goodley and Miss Jane Rutherford, as Principals, and has been in operation about three years, without a blow having been struck.—*New York Tribune.*

☞ Captain W. W. Wood, of Houston, has invented a steam wagon, intended to transport cotton across the prairies between Houston and the Brazos. The inventor estimates its capacity at one hundred bales, and its speed at twenty miles an hour. At a meeting of the citizens of Houston, five practical mechanics were appointed to examine and report on the practicability and probable cost of the invention.

☞ Professor Leverrier, the discoverer of the planet which should bear his name, but which the English wish to call Neptune, has ascertained that the sun is subject to perturbation.

☞ Somebody remarked to the Editor of a defiant magazine that the public was just beginning to have confidence in it. "I know it," quoth he, "but I couldn't live any longer on confidence."

☞ During the debate upon the liquor duty in Paris, a statement was made, based upon official information, that there are at the present time in France, 380,000 establishments for the sale of various liquors.

☞ A Western editor observes, that if a man who has a pretty wife, two pigs, a cow, and a fat baby, is not satisfied, he never will be until he takes a newspaper.

☞ HAPPINESS IN MODERATION.—As it is better to rest in health, straightened on a narrow pallet, than to roll in sickness on a wide bed; so it is better to be cheerful with little wealth, than to be miserable with great.

☞ JOHN CALVIN'S CHURCH IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.—The Church in Geneva, in which John Calvin preached, who in the sixteenth century caused Servetus, a Unitarian, to be burned at the stake, for his alleged heresy, has been some time, and is now, occupied by a Unitarian congregation. —*N. Y. Express.*

☞ A new Divorce Bill has passed the House of Representatives of Massachusetts. It provides that if any married person shall join any religious community who do not believe in the sanctity of the marriage relation, and shall continue so to live for three consecutive years, the person so deserted shall be deemed divorced by the marriage contract. The provision is said to have reference more especially to the community of Shakers.

☞ A travel

SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Philadelphia:
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1850.

SATURDAY EVENING POST

STEAM-POWER BOOK AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE,
No. 66 South Third Street, Phila.,
Where Books, Pamphlets, Hand Bills, Way Bills, Circulars, Bill Heads, Cards, Labels, &c., &c., are printed with dispatch, in the neatest manner, and on the most reasonable terms.
DEACON & PETERSON, Proprietors.

Congressional News.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

SENATE.

On the 19th, Mr. Seward presented a petition from George W. Rose, asking the Senate by report of a Committee, to state what matters clearly come within the powers of petitioners to present to Congress, as he is about presenting a petition, which possibly may not come within the rule.

Mr. Rusk raised a question of reception upon the petition, contending that it was disrespectful to the Senate, and it was not received.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions.

Mr. Downs resumed his remarks, commencing with an argument to show that the North would lose much more by a dissolution of the Union than the South. He stated that the North made a profit of eighty-eight millions of dollars annually upon the products of the South, and contended that the South could, without injury to herself, send her products through other channels, plentifying the trade of the North, and leaving that section in a condition similar to that witnessed in Canada. In this view, he implored Northern men to consider well before they forced dissunion upon the South. He objected to the opposition made by Mr. Clay to reduce the boundary of Texas, as it took from the South one-half that the Missouri Compromise gave them. If his proposition should be adopted, it would take away all that had been gained by the Texas Compromise, because there would be no place for its operation. If the strip of country in controversy between Texas and the Federal Government did not belong to Texas, it still belonged to Mexico, which country had long ago acknowledged that it belonged to Texas.

After some further remarks upon the resolutions, Mr. Downs proceeded with some observations upon the institution of slavery. He contended that slavery was not an evil—that the slaves, all through the South, were happy and rejoicing—the best fed, and the best clothed people in the world. He drew a comparison between them and the factory operatives referred to in a speech made by Mr. Hale, some time since, asserting, that the condition of the slaves is far the happiest and best. He attacked the statistics of poverty in New York, and defied her Senators to show that her poor white population were even equal in their conditions to the much-pitied slaves of the South. In conclusion, he summed up the history of the slave question, from the foundation of the Government to the present time, contending that the whole course of the South had been one of concession—while that of the North had been repeated demands and aggressions. The South had conceded everything which had been asked, and more, in the concessions of peace, the North no longer asks concession, but asserts her right to ask a compromise—to grasp the whole—if the North persists in this course to—open herself would rest the responsibility.

Mr. Dawson having concluded, the Senate went into Executive Session, and soon after adjourned.

On the 20th, the Senate resumed the consideration of the motion to refer the President's Collection Message to the Territorial Committee.

Mr. Clemens having the floor, proceeded to address the Senate. He expressed his surprise at the yellow-dawning which existed between Mr. Benton and Mr. Clay. He had been taught to look to the time when the Iron and the Lion should lie down together, but he had not expected to see the great engineer and the great embankment hold sweet converse together. In view of this strange fact, he was ready now to believe any miracle—no matter how marvellous.

Mr. C. then proceeded to discuss Mr. Clay's resolutions, charging him, in the first place, with having committed his own sections, and proposed to include everything asked by the North, giving to the South nothing in return, but proposing to do a less odious form, of rights already guaranteed. He did not believe that war must follow dissunion. But if threatened must not the majesty of the land, the responsibility would rest, not upon those who defended their rights, but upon those who endeavored to outrage them.

Mr. Case submitted a few remarks in vindication of his course, and in reply to some animadversions upon the Senator who preceded him he indulged in. He believed the Wilmot Proviso to be unconstitutional. He confessed that when the Wilmot Proviso was first proposed, he would, without deliberation, have voted in favor of it. When he saw the Proviso, he thought, perhaps, the question presented itself to his mind for a calm consideration of the whole subject—it was then his doubts came to his mind as to the Constitutionality of the Proviso, which investigation strengthened and confirmed. Having taken counsel upon this matter, he had given in his Northern letter last points. First—That the Proviso is unconstitutional. Second—That slavery does not exist in Mexico. Third—That it does not exist in Fourth—That for power of legislation upon this question, is vested in the people of a territory. Upon these points, he had made his mind and had to commend upon his course. He had the right which belonged to every freeman to consider and comment upon the public acts of public men.

Mr. Clay, (interposing.) Certainly, but not upon my private intercourse.

Mr. Clemens continued at some length in vindication of his own course. In reply to Mr. Case, he said that the construction put by that gentleman upon his Nicholson letter, had never been put upon it by his own party, in the State of Alabama. A distinguished gentleman in Alabama, (Mr. Yancey,) was read out of the Democratic party because he put the construction upon the Nicholson letter which the Senator himself now gave it.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, followed, denying that he had charged the Senator from Michigan with inconsistency. He had always understood the Nicholson letter just as he had now explained it, and upon that ground had refused to support him; thus incurring the censure of his own political friends.

Mr. Foote made some remarks in vindication of his observations, in relation to the ——ercourse between Mr. Benton and Mr. ——. In the course of his remarks he ——suggested to Mr. Clay that there was ——sometimes something in his demeanor, when excited in debate, which had the appearance of menace. He also alluded to a speech made by that Senator eleven years ago, in which he said that certain acts, if persisted in, would dissolve the Union, and dissolve it in blood.

Mr. Foote went on at length with some personal remarks upon Messrs. Clay, Seward and Benton.

Mr. Clay said a few words in reply to Mr. Foote's remarks about the intercourse between him and Mr. Benton, and in the course of a few observations suggested to him the impropriety of attempting to draw deductions from such private intercourse. He reminded Mr. Foote that he himself, last morning, had come over to his seat and held a long conversation with him in relation to the difficulties which surrounded the affairs of the country, and asked him whether it would not have been unfair for some Northern man to have imputed to the Senator dissunionable motives in making that interview. As to slavery, it is an evil—a political and social evil—and is a wrong towards those who are the sufferers thereby. There were two opinions, but he was relied with no man who thought otherwise in conscience, he emphatically denied all the bitterness of feeling which existed between Mr. Benton and Mr. Clay. He had been taught to look to the time when the lion and the lamb should lie down together, but he had not expected to see the great engineer and the great embankment hold sweet converse together. In view of this strange fact, he was ready now to believe any miracle—no matter how marvellous.

Mr. C. then proceeded to discuss Mr. Clay's resolutions, charging him, in the first place, with having committed his own sections, and proposed to include everything asked by the North, giving to the South nothing in return, but proposing to do a less odious form, of rights already guaranteed. He did not believe that war must follow dissunion. But if threatened must not the majesty of the land, the responsibility would rest, not upon those who defended their rights, but upon those who endeavored to outrage them.

Mr. Case submitted a few remarks in vindication of his course, and in reply to some animadversions upon the Senator who preceded him he indulged in. He believed the Wilmot Proviso to be unconstitutional. He confessed that when the Wilmot Proviso was first proposed, he would, without deliberation, have voted in favor of it. When he saw the Proviso, he thought, perhaps, the question presented itself to his mind for a calm consideration of the whole subject—it was then his doubts came to his mind as to the Constitutionality of the Proviso, which investigation strengthened and confirmed. Having taken counsel upon this matter, he had given in his Northern letter last points. First—That the Proviso is unconstitutional. Second—That slavery does not exist in Mexico. Third—That it does not exist in Fourth—That for power of legislation upon this question, is vested in the people of a territory. These were his opinions, and he had acted upon them in an abstraction—a speculation. He alleged, also, to the unfavorable position in which Northern men, who opposed the Proviso, were placed.

The Senator from Alabama, who had undertaken to charge him with inconsistency, had not pronounce his course, had an easy task. The South has wrongs, it is true, but none which could justify an insurrection, and which a revolution would justify. They were under the influence of excitement with reference to these wrongs, and the Senator after his inconsistent speech was in a state of excitement. These sentiments were echoed by his constituents. The people at home expected him to do something. He was asked to meet upon this agitating question, and was rewarded with applause, and yet he undertook to convince those who were defending the constitutional rights of the people of the South against a pressure at home. He alluded, also, to the language that he had used in the Nicholson letter, which he had providing for the recapture of fugitive slaves. The Senator, while urging upon Northern men the justice of a measure which he advocated, declared that it would do no good if passed—that it would be worse than useless. Such expressions as these—such conduct on the part of Southern men—drove Southern from the North to the wall.

Mr. Dawson, (interposing,) said that his remarks were misunderstood. He had said that there was hope, except in the loyalty of the people, that no law could be made effective, unless the people organized those sentiments referred to in speech made by Mr. Hale, same time ——asserting, that the condition of the ——slave is far the happiest and best. He ——attacked the statistics of poverty in New York, and defied her Senators to show that her poor white population were even equal in their conditions to the much-pitied slaves of the South. In conclusion, he summed up the history of the slave question, from the foundation of the Government to the present time, contending that the whole course of the South had been one of concession—while that of the North had been repeated demands and aggressions. The South had conceded everything which had been asked, and more in the concessions of peace, the North no longer asks concession, but asserts her right to ask a compromise—to grasp the whole—if the North persists in this course to—open herself would rest the responsibility.

Mr. Dawson having concluded, the Senate went into Executive Session, and soon after adjourned.

On the 20th, the Senate resumed the consideration of the motion to refer the President's Collection Message to the Territorial Committee.

Mr. Clemens having the floor, proceeded to address the Senate. He expressed his surprise at the yellow-dawning which existed between Mr. Benton and Mr. Clay. He had been taught to look to the time when the lion and the lamb should lie down together, but he had not expected to see the great engineer and the great embankment hold sweet converse together. In view of this strange fact, he was ready now to believe any miracle—no matter how marvellous.

Mr. C. then proceeded to discuss Mr. Clay's resolutions, charging him, in the first place, with having committed his own sections, and proposed to include everything asked by the North, giving to the South nothing in return, but proposing to do a less odious form, of rights already guaranteed. He did not believe that war must follow dissunion. But if threatened must not the majesty of the land, the responsibility would rest, not upon those who defended their rights, but upon those who endeavored to outrage them.

Mr. Case submitted a few remarks in vindication of his course, and in reply to some animadversions upon the Senator who preceded him he indulged in. He believed the Wilmot Proviso to be unconstitutional. He confessed that when the Wilmot Proviso was first proposed, he would, without deliberation, have voted in favor of it. When he saw the Proviso, he thought, perhaps, the question presented itself to his mind for a calm consideration of the whole subject—it was then his doubts came to his mind as to the Constitutionality of the Proviso, which investigation strengthened and confirmed. Having taken counsel upon this matter, he had given in his Northern letter last points. First—That the Proviso is unconstitutional. Second—That slavery does not exist in Mexico. Third—That it does not exist in Fourth—That for power of legislation upon this question, is vested in the people of a territory. These were his opinions, and he had acted upon them in an abstraction—a speculation. He alleged, also, to the unfavorable position in which Northern men, who opposed the Proviso, were placed.

The Senator from Alabama, who had undertaken to charge him with inconsistency, had not pronounce his course, had an easy task. The South has wrongs, it is true, but none which could justify an insurrection, and which a revolution would justify. They were under the influence of excitement with reference to these wrongs, and the Senator after his inconsistent speech was in a state of excitement. These sentiments were echoed by his constituents. The people at home expected him to do something. He was asked to meet upon this agitating question, and was rewarded with applause, and yet he undertook to convince those who were defending the constitutional rights of the people of the South against a pressure at home. He alluded, also, to the language that he had used in the Nicholson letter, which he had providing for the recapture of fugitive slaves. The Senator, while urging upon Northern men the justice of a measure which he advocated declared that it would do no good if passed—that it would be worse than useless. Such expressions as these—such conduct on the part of Southern men—drove Southern from the North to the wall.

Mr. Dawson, (interposing,) said that his remarks were misunderstood. He had said that there was hope, except in the loyalty of the people, that no law could be made effective, unless the people organized those sentiments referred to in—

Mr. Case, (resumed.)—The gentleman's speech had exhibited a tone of disparagement throughout. Resolutions had been offered from time to time—some of which would result from disunion, and excitating which section was to lose the most by such a step, he was unable to tell. That disunion would produce unheard of calamity, and be irremovably fatal to both sections, he was well aware and ready to admit—but he would call upon gentlemen to show him the first of good that was to flow from such a measure, and when that was done, he would listen to its discussion with more and less of patience. In this storm of passion and feeling, all reason seemed to have been discarded, but he desired now to speak and plainly—he had been misunderstood heretofore, but it was not his fault if misunderstood hereafter. The storm had passed over him and borne him down. He was here for the last time, and felt that under all circumstances he had a right to speak. Slavery was an exciting institution, for which this generation is not responsible, and he felt that Congress had no control over it. This he had always believed and held. But if a man did not believe—as he never had—that the institution of slavery was a blessed institution, wise, moral and political, he was denounced by certain Southern gentlemen as a traitor. On the other hand, if a Northern man is not ready to put the bayonet to the breast of every Southerner to free the negroes, and carry donations and instructions to their friends, he was denounced as a Northern doughface. It was then that the storm passed over the Northern Representatives, and that they were broken down. Could not gentlemen see that such a course as this was as dangerous as it was impolitic. In conclusion, Mr. Case said that when Mr. Clemens suggested such a thing as a peaceable dissolution of the Union, he laughed at the wildest chimera ever imagined. He hoped God would give to the councils of the nation more of the spirit of justice, conciliation and compromise—that the Union might be bound together as with bars of iron.

Mr. Clay arose to reply to one of the speakers of the Senator from Alabama, (Mr. Clemens,) who had said that Senator to semi-advert upon a conference held between the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Benton,) and himself. It was very true that for several years there did exist other than the most cordial feelings between him and Mr. Benton; that a system of non-intercourse was established between them, if the gentleman pleased so to call it. Some three years ago they had come together, parting kindly, good place with each other, as Mr. Clay wished he might be able to do with all the world, but with respect to intimations or any actual demonstration and consideration of measures proposed to be introduced, he had to say that there was nothing of the kind. He had never seen or heard anything in relation to the bill proposed and introduced by Mr. Benton, proposing to reduce the present boundaries of Texas, until it was brought into the Senate.

On the other hand, Mr. Benton had never seen, heard or thought, so far as he knew, of the series of resolutions recently introduced by him, Mr. Clay. What then had the Senator who had denounced their intercourse to go upon? Was so to speculate upon the object of that private conference, and to make such deductions as accrued to him to be proper? He had no right to do so, and the conclusion should not be drawn from such deductions were. He would repeat, that there was no interchange of opinion between him and Mr. Benton at all, in relation to their respective projects. It was true that at the time alluded to, they did converse together upon the proper disposition of subjects coming before the Senate, but what right had others to attempt to place conjectures upon their motives? He must protest against submitting his conduct to such scrutiny as such leal as that, he was and had been so deeply impressed with a sense of the awful dangers which menaced the existence of the government that if the Senator had been his most bitter enemy, and had come to him to consider the nearest best relations to the country, he would call upon gentlemen to show him the first of good that was to flow from such a measure, and when that was done, he would listen to its discussion with more and less of patience. In this storm of passion and feeling, all reason seemed to have been discarded, but he desired now to speak and plainly—he had been misunderstood heretofore, but it was not his fault if misunderstood hereafter. The storm had passed over him and borne him down. He was here for the last time, and felt that under all circumstances he had a right to speak. Slavery was an exciting institution, for which this generation is not responsible, and he felt that Congress had no control over it. This he had always believed and held. But if a man did not believe—as he never had—that the institution of slavery was a blessed institution, wise, moral and political, he was denounced by certain Southern gentlemen as a traitor. On the other hand, if a Northern man is not ready to put the bayonet to the breast of every Southerner to free the negroes, and carry donations and instructions to their friends, he was denounced as a Northern doughface. It was then that the storm passed over the Northern Representatives, and that they were broken down. Could not gentlemen see that such a course as this was as dangerous as it was impolitic. In conclusion, Mr. Case said that when Mr. Clemens suggested such a thing as a peaceable dissolution of the Union, he laughed at the wildest chimera ever imagined. He hoped God would give to the councils of the nation more of the spirit of justice, conciliation and compromise—that the Union might be bound together as with bars of iron.

Mr. Clay arose to reply to one of the speakers of the Senator from Alabama, (Mr. Clemens,) who had said that Senator to semi-advert upon a conference held between the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Benton,) and himself. It was very true that for several years there did exist other than the most cordial feelings between him and Mr. Benton; that a system of non-intercourse was established between them, if the gentleman pleased so to call it. Some three years ago they had come together, parting kindly, good place with each other, as Mr. Clay wished he might be able to do with all the world, but with respect to intimations or any actual demonstration and consideration of measures proposed to be introduced, he had to say that there was nothing of the kind. He had never seen or heard anything in relation to the bill proposed and introduced by Mr. Benton, proposing to reduce the present boundaries of Texas, until it was brought into the Senate.

On the other hand, Mr. Benton had never seen, heard or thought, so far as he knew, of the series of resolutions recently introduced by him, Mr. Clay. What then had the Senator who had denounced their intercourse to go upon? Was so to speculate upon the object of that private conference, and to make such deductions as accrued to him to be proper? He had no right to do so, and the conclusion should not be drawn from such deductions were. He would repeat, that there was no interchange of opinion between him and Mr. Benton at all, in relation to their respective projects. It was true that at the time alluded to, they did converse together upon the proper disposition of subjects coming before the Senate, but what right had others to attempt to place conjectures upon their motives? He must protest against submitting his conduct to such scrutiny as such leal as that, he was and had been so deeply impressed with a sense of the awful dangers which menaced the existence of the government that if the Senator had been his most bitter enemy, and had come to him to consider the nearest best relations to the country, he would call upon gentlemen to show him the first of good that was to flow from such a measure, and when that was done, he would listen to its discussion with more and less of patience. In this storm of passion and feeling, all reason seemed to have been discarded, but he desired now to speak and plainly—he had been misunderstood heretofore, but it was not his fault if misunderstood hereafter. The storm had passed over him and borne him down. He was here for the last time, and felt that under all circumstances he had a right to speak. Slavery was an exciting institution, for which this generation is not responsible, and he felt that Congress had no control over it. This he had always believed and held. But if a man did not believe—as he never had—that the institution of slavery was a blessed institution, wise, moral and political, he was denounced by certain Southern gentlemen as a traitor. On the other hand, if a Northern man is not ready to put the bayonet to the breast of every Southerner to free the negroes, and carry donations and instructions to their friends, he was denounced as a Northern doughface. It was then that the storm passed over the Northern Representatives, and that they were broken down. Could not gentlemen see that such a course as this was as dangerous as it was impolitic. In conclusion, Mr. Case said that when Mr. Clemens suggested such a thing as a peaceable dissolution of the Union, he laughed at the wildest chimera ever imagined. He hoped God would give to the councils of the nation more of the spirit of justice, conciliation and compromise—that the Union might be bound together as with bars of iron.

Mr. Butler followed in some exciting observations in relation to the attempt heretofore made to give California a government, charging that it was the fault of the South with which had abandoned her without law and protection.

Mr. Dodge, of Iowa, defended himself, as a Northern man against the accusation of Mr. Butler. He, as a Northern man, with several others had voted continually and until the last, in favor of the proposition which was introduced by Mr. Clay for a law and protection to California. The gentlemen from South Carolina was then ready to give to the President, who had lived in the South, the authority to spread over that country every class of offenses—but now, when the same President had honestly done what he deemed just and proper, charges were made against him of usurpation—such charges as should impel the Senator making them, if he believed them, to seek the immediate vacancy of Zachary Taylor. He then alluded to the distribution of political honors in California, and showed great force by his remarks, that the people had not only shared them, but that they had received nearly the whole of them. What, then, had the South to complain of? Had not the South had which had shown so strongly its partiality for them.

After some additional conversation, the further consideration of the subject was postponed until Monday.

Mr. Seward presented the resolutions recently passed by the Legislature of New York, upon the subject of slavery, and the admission of California into the Union. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hamlin's resolution, submitted some time since, calling for information relative to the imprisonment and barbarous treatment of American seamen wrecked on the coast of Japan, was taken up and adopted.

The special order of the day being taken up,

Mr. Miller proceeded to address the Senate. He said that the President had the meaning in the Federal Capital for the purpose of being present at the laying of the foundation stone of the Washington Monument, also to be present at the Commonwealth of Virginia, in honor of her most distinguished son. The action was good, and he trusted that these boundless ties would tend much to strengthen the foundation stone of the Union. He then proceeded to picture the prosperity and happiness of the American people. A people never more prosperous than now, and yet never were there so much dissatisfaction. The Union never was stronger than to-day, and yet its destruction was a continual theme. The people were never happier than now, and yet never were their representatives more distressed and worried. The national credit was never higher than now—our foreign and internal commerce never better or extended—all was prosperous—our national wealth, prosperity and strength was never greater, and yet the country was racked with war, commotion and excitement. The Union seemed on the point of being torn in pieces. Notwithstanding such radiant brightness marked the firmament, there were some political astronomers who seemed to adduce omens of a state of things, in which this justice was to be dimmed by something which threatened as with midnight. When he looked about him and beheld thirty happy and prosperous States clustering around the parent Sun—each dwelling in a glorious sunlight, and by any people that have pressed them, he had no fears but that the glorious system would move onward and onward in its career of brightness and happiness. He had said he accomplished the end which a wise Creator had appointed it.

Mr. Miller then proceeded to consider the general question of slavery, answering the charges of aggression made by the South against the North, charging that they were exaggerated, and that, so far as they existed, the representations from the Northern States are ready, and ever have been, to do for the South all necessary and proper measures for the vindication of their rights. He referred to the past history of the country, quoting the action of Government on various questions, similar, in more or less respects, to those now agitating the land, for the purpose of showing that the South asked nothing from the South, violative of any stage of principle heretofore established, or of any form which interested right of the South. He advocated the proposition to admit California into the Union, defending the President from the charge of usurpation, and arguing the necessity of giving to the people of the Pacific that necessary protection for which they sue at the hands of the federal government. At about three o'clock, Mr. Miller gave way to a motion for postponement of the further consideration of the subject until Tuesday next, which was agreed to.

After some conversation relative to the title to the floor, in which it was generally understood that Messrs. Walker, Rusk and Seward should successively address Mr. Miller, the Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 19th, Mr. Littlefield, of Maine, asked leave to introduce a bill to protect the sale of intoxicating drink in the public buildings and grounds. Objections were interposed.

On motion of Mr. Bayly, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and proceeded to the consideration of the President's Annual Message.

Mr. Venable said, the South complained that large numbers of the States not only do not deliver up fugitive slaves to their owners, but enact laws to prevent the carrying out of the constitutional provisions. The North claim the right to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, and if this were not enough, when the Wilmot Proviso becomes inoperative, another mode of restriction is proposed. Aided by Executive influence, the territory acquired from Mexico is to be admitted as a State free from the institution of slavery. But what could be expected from the Secretary of State—the principal adviser of President Taylor, who—when he was in the Senate, voted for an amendment to the Wilmot Proviso in the Treaty with Mexico? Those are the defiant boys curses.

They wish to take from the South their inheritance, and press on them this question, and steal their negroes when they can. A Boston stipulator carried off slaves from North Carolina. The negroes got into the country, where they are called—and—and—and

Selected Poetry.

THE ANGEL WATCHER.

A daughter watched at midnight,
Her dying mother's bed;
For five long nights she had not slept,
And many tears were shed.
A vision like an angel came,
Which none but her might see;
"Sleep, beauteous child," the angel said,
"And I will watch for thee!"

Sweet slumber, like a blessing, fell
Upon the daughter's face;
The angel smiled, and touched her not,
But gently took her place;
And, oh! so full of human love,
These gazing eyes did shine;
The angel guest half mortal seemed—
The slumberer half divine.

Lone rays of light, the sleeper's locks,
Its warm, loose curls were thrown—
Like rays of light, the angel's hair
Seemed like the sleeper's own—
A rose-like shadow on the cheek,
Dissolving into pearl—
A something in the angel's face,
Seemed easier to the girl!

The mortal and immortal, each
Reflecting each were seen;
The earthly and the spiritual,
With earth's pain face between.
Oh, human love, what strength like thine!
From these three prayers arose,
Which, entering into Paradise,
Upon angels from the skies!

The dawn looked through the casement cold,
A watery dawn of gloom,
And sadder showed the curtained bed—
The still and sickly room.
"My daughter! art thou there, my child!
Oh, haste thee, love, come nigh!
That I may one once more thy face,
And bless thee ere I die.

"If I were ever harsh to thee,
Forgive me now," she cried;
"God knows my heart; I loved thee most
When most I seemed to chide;
Now, bend and kiss thy mother's lips,
And for her spirit pray!"
The angel blessed her—and her soul
Passed peacefully away!

A sudden start!—wild dream, what sound,
The slumbering girl alarms?
She wakes—she sees her mother dead
With the angel's arms—
She wakes—she springs with wild embrace—
But nothing there appears,
Except her mother's sweet dead face—
Her own convulsive tears.

Singular Character.

FANNY MOORE:

THE FEMALE HUNTER OF THE WEST.

The father of the singular heroine we are about to sketch, was a Kentucky backwoodsman. Her mother died while she was yet an infant, and when she arrived at the age of fifteen, her father also died, leaving her a poor friendless orphan.—It is not surprising, then, at this tender age she married a Missouri hunter, (an acquaintance of her deceased father,) double her years as to age, but just her equal in poverty. Her whole fortune was composed of one cow, an old feather bed, a rusty flying pan, a broken set of teacups and saucers, ditto of knives and forks, with horn handles, two pewter spoons, a bible, and a wooden bowl of Indian manufacture. Such was the legacy bequeathed by her surviving parent. Her husband's wealth might mate well enough with such a portion brought into the matrimonial partnership by his wife. A thick headed pony, a large wolf dog, and a long, heavy rifle, constituted the sum total of his goods and chattels. So far, the nuptial contract might seem fair, without extravagant odds on either side. There were other considerations, however, which made the bargain, one might say, fraudulently unequal. She was a pretty, rosy-cheeked, ruby-lipped, healthy lass, with sky-blue eyes, golden ringlets, and a cheery laugh; slender in frame, but of wiry elasticity, and a constitution of the most tenacious vitality. He, on the contrary, was a pale, lean, hungry-looking hypocondriac, who might be supposed, from the wry faces he displayed when forced to any exertion of his limbs in profitable labor, to regard work as unpardonable sin. The entreaties and examples of his young wife, if he true, did, for a while, stimulate him to just sufficient effort, in the way of deer-hunting, to keep them from starving. The couple then lived in Western Missouri. Fanny, with her own delicate white hands, cleared out and cultivated a small field, and managed her domestic economy with so much thrift, that, notwithstanding the laziness of Tom, they began to accumulate slowly.

But an event occurred, in the sixth year of their wedlock, that changed the present current of affairs, and startled her in her wild schemes. A "great revival," under the guidance of the "Cumberland Presbyterians," swept like a hurricane over the West. Missouri became the heart of the storm, and "Tom Moore" was one of the first who embraced the system of excitement.—Perhaps the logic which led him on may have been something like this—"that being unfit to inhabit the earth, he certainly was a good subject to prepare for heaven." Tom Moore, who had always harbored an inveterate aversion against every other conceivable species of locomotion, all at once felt a strange passion for this, and contracted the daily habit of "walkin'" which adhered to him during the remainder of his life. The circumstance would have been not matter of much, (unless a "jerking fit" had chanced to seize him on some occasion when taking aim at a buck in the woods,) had not a fantastic opinion get into his head about the same time. It seems that one Sunday the Cumberland disciple read the passage of Matthew, "Take no thought for the morrow," &c. Tom swallowed the text, but rejected the comment, and, misinterpreting the sentence, literally came to the deliberate conclusion, "that it was sinful to provide for the wants of the wicked body," and resolved to act accordingly.

It was in vain that the industrious wife debated the theological question with her slothful, infatuated spouse. Her tears, arguments and remonstrances all ended alike in his usual spasm of jerking; but as to any other sort of exertion, he would not budge a peg.

Fanny's case was now critical in the extreme, for, strange to say, she still loved her husband with a love that, in spite of every imaginable damper, continued to burn on ardently in her affectionate heart till death. Hence she could not make up her mind to leave him. Besides, they had one child, a girl, and it was absolutely impossible to support such a family on the produce of their paltry, stony farm. In this emergency, that weak woman suddenly developed an energy and originality of idea purpose which the annals of the world cannot surpass.

With indefatigable patience, she practised and learned to shoot, till no marksman in all Missouri was her match, and then, as a solitary huntress, took to the forest, and soon supplied her husband and family with a choice abundance of meat. It is not recorded of Moore that he manifested any aversion towards the venison steaks which his better half provided with so much labor, however much he had been opposed to the use of such sacrifice meats himself, as the expenditure of one needful thought for the morrow.

The wild region of Missouri at last settled up. Sunny fields, waving with golden grain, stood in the place of the old green woods which had furnished shelter and sustenance for the copper game. The buffalo fled farther off, deeper into the grand prairies, nearer to the Rocky Mountains. The moonbeams fell broad and bright on the open bottoms where the brown bears used to nestle among the matted canes. The red deer had been scared away by the shaky sound of Tom Moore's cane. It became necessary that Fanny should move. She said their slender "improvement" on the banks of the silver Osage, for a cart, a yoke of oxen, and a small team so ready made, and loading the crazy vehicle with six children and her "jerker" believing Tom, she started for Arkansas. In this new country, then a territory, she selected a locality fifty miles from any settlement. Here wild animals roamed in the greatest plenty, and her rude board table groaned beneath (to them) heaps of savory luxuries. This wonder of a wife now added rapidly to their humble property. Her cane-worn, wasted figure grew rounder; her step, as she saddled the black pony, more elastic; and the whistle with which she summoned her mill-dog to the daily hunting foray. Even the laugh sometimes rang out as in the merry thoughtless hours of her early youth, loud, long and clear as the sweet tones of bell metal.

One thought of a most gloomy character alone disturbed the calm flow of her joyous reflections. Her children were growing up with the rapidity of hasty summer weeds, and utterly without education, or even the prospect of any opportunity to obtain it. The idea haunted her day and night. She turned it over in her mind in every conceivable way, but still could find no solution for the torturing problem. She had learned to spell, when a child, at an old field school—that is to say, she had gone as far in Webster's as three syllables, which, by the way, was nearly the extent of her same teacher's accurate information in the pedagogical art. But her memory had long ago lost in the inverse ratio of its acquisitions, till she could scarcely be said to know her letters. Often did she bitterly regret her idleness in the early school-house, and exclaim, as she fondly kissed her children, on returning at night from the bulbous hunt,—"If I had only learned to read, then I could now teach you, my dears." And her tears would drop like rain.

At length an incident occurred, that brought with it a suggestion shaping itself into a fixed plan, which enabled her finally to vanquish the perplexing difficulty. The author cannot do better than give the anecdote in her own artless words, as related to him, in Texas, some twelve months ago.

"I used to cry about it every night," she said, "before going to sleep, and then I would dream it all over again; for indeed it was sad to think of. I knew that by hard work we would, after a while, be well enough off to move into the settlements, where decent people live; and then I thought how shocking it would seem for my young ones to have no more learning than the wild Indians. The boys were getting more than half as tall as their father, and Peggy's pretty head was even as high as my shoulders. It was enough to make a fond mother cry. I was then in the habit of going every two or three months to Little Rock, with a pack of peltries, to buy salt and other things that we could not get along without. One time I brought back some bunches of raisins for the baby. They were wrapped up in a large newspaper, which contained a number of curious pictures. The sheet was gazed at with wonder by the poor creatures, who had never seen such an object in their lives. Little Tommy asked me, with sparkling eyes, if it was a bird. I tried to explain the matter to him; told him what it was; that it contained a tale about the whole world; and that when persons learn to read it, they could know all affairs which were going on across the blue mountains, and the big rivers, and away over the sea, as well as the sights they saw every day before their own doors.

"'Oh! ma, won't you teach us how to read, so we can hear from our old play-places in Missouri?' said Peggy, who was then almost a woman.

"The question like to have broken my heart. I remembered how lazy I had been when a girl; and the idea was a sharp shooting pain, splitting my side into my very soul. I wept like a child, till even my own children strove to comfort me. However, my tears did me good. Tears always relieve the heart; they commonly clear the head also. A sudden thought struck me—a great pain—I might say a holy purpose. It seemed impossible, but I resolved to try it. That night I learned the young folks off to bed, and having kindled a good pine-knot light, picked up the newspaper and sat down to see if I could make out anything in it. I smiled with unspeakable delight on discovering that I still knew all the letters, except the capitals. But I soon had cause to weep again, for, after doing my best, and sitting up till daylight every line remained a riddle—I could not spell out the meaning of a single sentence. About sunrise a new notion entered my head. I determined to go again shortly to Little Rock and purchase some primers and spelling-books, which I afterwards did. I then began to learn in earnest. It was very hard for a while; but I sat up late, after Tom and the children were all asleep, and took my primmer along with me when I went to hunt. I could study it as I rode, especially where the woods were open, and before I got within range of game; and then, when I was resting, after lifting a heavy deer upon my pony, or walking up a steep hill, I would pull it out of a pocket which I had prepared on purpose in the side of my dress, and ran over the pages till I at last could almost repeat the whole from memory. I then commenced on my large spelling-book, and mastered it in the same way. All the while I wanted to be teaching the children, but was afraid of teaching them wrong, intending first to make my self perfect, because I thought that it was not of any use to know any thing at all unless one could know it right.

"While thus engaged, a lost hunter stopped a few days at our cabin, and discovering my studies, lent me a book called a 'Primer.' I then found that I had done well in not beginning to instruct the boys and Peggy sooner. I had to unlearn the pronunciation of a great many of my words that sounded frightfully when compared with the correct modes. After I got it straight, I bought a primer for each one of the children, and collecting them all together one Sunday morning, told them 'that I was going to teach them how to read.' It would have done your heart good to see them! They appeared to be running mad for joy. The girls still remembered what I had said about the newspaper, and had teased me much on the subject. Night after night they would sit up till twelve, studying their primers and spelling-books; and all day on the Sabbath they tried more industriously than even I had done at the school-room, until at last they were through both books. But I was still ahead of them—for long before then I had obtained a Testament and the Life of Marion and had gone over both several times. In this way I taught my dear young ones to read, having first of all taught myself."

For the literal historical accuracy of the foregoing extraordinary facts, we refer to Mrs. Holley's book on Texas, where she refers to Mrs. Moore, although in her narrative she only sets down the initials of her name.

And may we not well be permitted to doubt whether the annals of the globe, and all the ages of time presents a parallel to this almost miraculous case? The biographies of the self-educated learn, to be sure, with noble examples how they suffer as among the stronger sex. But did any one ever before, either man or woman go through the patient, painful process of voluntary self culture, with the same definite and settled object? Those have struggled with the hopeless phantom of unaided mental development, from the desire of gain or hope of glory; but she, that poor hunter-mother of the backwoods, from purer, loftier, more angelic motive of an infinitive tender, holy maternal love, and with the sole view of fitting herself to be the teacher of her innocent offspring, cut off as they were by insuperable circumstances from every other means of instruction. It makes one better to read of such instance or exalted devotion to conscience sake, and then to know and feel that although the race of moral heroes appears to be nearly or quite extinct, that of domestic heroines never can wholly perish, while one mother shall be left to linger on earth with a bright eyed babe trotting about her bosom.

But the tide of emigration found out Fanny's humble home in the mountains of Arkansas. Its waves rolled in and scared away the timid deer and shyer solid turkeys. She was therefore forced to remove once more, and this time look her course for Texas, where she settled on a remarkable "mound" beyond the Brazos, already the hunting-ground of another singular female known as Mrs. Polly Dust, grand-daughter of Daniel Boone, the "mighty hunter." Their cabins stood half a mile apart, and the two became very intimate friends. It must be confessed that occasional quarrels occurred which were owing to causes; the impetuous temper of the female Nimrod, the jealousy excited by the superior education of Fanny and more particularly of her children. The latter could read, their mother had never taught them to write after a fashion, and the young Dusts were very fond of showing their accomplishments and learning by way of triumph over the juvenile Dusts. This always provoked the passionate irascibility of the Amazon. But possessing, notwithstanding the explosive fire in her nature, a great deal of milk of human kindness also, and the other being patient and by giving almost to a fault, their disturbance always terminated soon, and each reconciliation was the renewal of a closer intimacy than ever.

CHARACTER.—Men are to be estimated, as Johnson says, by the mass of character. A block of tin may have a grain of silver, but still it is tin, and a block of silver may have an alloy of tin, but still it is silver. The mass of Elijah's character was excellence yet he was not without the alloy. The mass of Jesu's character was base, yet he had a portion of zeal which was directed by God's spirit to good. Men are made into the same use as scaffolds; they are employed as means to erect a building, and then are taken down and destroyed.—*Cecil.*

For Housekeepers.

INDIAN BUTTER CAKES.—Mix together a quart of sifted Indian meal, (the yellow meal is best for all purposes,) and a handfull of wheat flour. Warm a quart of milk, and stir into it a small piece of lard, and salt, and two large table-spoonfuls of the best fresh yeast. Beat three eggs very light, and stir them gradually into the milk in turn with the meal. Cover it, and set it to rise for three or four hours. When quite light, bake it on a griddle in the manner of buckwheat cakes. Butter them, cut them across, and send them to table hot, with molasses in a sauce tureen.

If the butter should chance to become sour before it is baked, stir in about a half-spoonful of pearl-ash dissolved in a little lukewarm water, by which she summoned her mill-dog to the daily hunting foray. Even the laugh sometimes rang out as in the merry thoughtless hours of her early youth, loud, long and clear as the sweet tones of bell metal.

One thought of a most gloomy character alone disturbed the calm flow of her joyous reflections. Her children were growing up with the rapidity of hasty summer weeds, and utterly without education, or even the prospect of any opportunity to obtain it. The idea haunted her day and night. She turned it over in her mind in every conceivable way, but still could find no solution for the torturing problem. She had learned to spell, when a child, at an old field school—that is to say, she had gone as far in Webster's as three syllables, which, by the way, was nearly the extent of her same teacher's accurate information in the pedagogical art. But her memory had long ago lost in the inverse ratio of its acquisitions, till she could scarcely be said to know her letters. Often did she bitterly regret her idleness in the early school-house, and exclaim, as she fondly kissed her children, on returning at night from the bulbous hunt,—"If I had only learned to read, then I could now teach you, my dears." And her tears would drop like rain.

At length an incident occurred, that brought

Wit and Humor.

A WEDDING EXCURSION.

In the evening the ceremony was performed which made Tim and Rachel an unit, and after the company had "liquored" all round, Tim having previously "talked it up" with Rachel, boldly announced the desperate resolution of starting the next morning on a grand tour of observation.

"He had always bin to hum," he said, "and never seen nuthin, and now he was goin' straight to G——, and afore he come back he would see a steamboat, if there was such a thing any how."

The village of G—— was about fifty miles distant, lying on the Ohio River, and a journey there from Tim's residence in those days, was deemed a great undertaking. Some of them thought Tim had taken leave of his senses, or certainly he was not in earnest, but he assured them he was, and the next mornin', tackling up "old gray," and putting in a supply of pork and beans for the journey, Tim and the new Mrs. Higgins started on their bridal tour. The second day the hopeful pair, without accident, arrived at G——. Just as they were entering the town, it so happened that the steamboat Pennsylvania was rounding in to make landing. Tim caught sight of her smoke-pipes, and in an ecstacy of wonder and delight cried out:

"There she comes now, by hokey! Look at her, Rach! Je-ru-sa-lem! Just as Squire Stokely said—smokes like a burnin' feller. She's comin' in to shore, to!—Jemima, what a creek! funder! across than from our house to Shadlow's mill! ain't it, Rach? See, they are tying up the varmint with a halter. Wonder if it's skeery and pulls. Here's a post—let's tie gray, and go down to the critter."

"Thunder!—what's that I—how it snorts!—You better keep away from it, Tim," said Rachel, "it mought swaller you down like winkin'."

"I ain't afeared," said Tim, "folks are comin' off on't now. She's good natured, I reckon, only spunky."

By this time "gray" was made fast, and Tim and Rachel were moving cautiously in the direction of the boat.

"No balking, Rach, I'm going on to her."

The plank was out, and Tim, followed slowly by Rachel, boldly walked up, and soon stood alongside the engine.

"See how she sweats—they must have put her through," said Tim.

"I say, old hoss," said Tim, addressing the engineer, "move her jest a little—I want to see how she travels."

"She'll move directly," replied the man of steam, "better keep out of her way."

Tim and Rachel now wended their way to the main deck, and so completely were they absorbed with what they saw, that they did not observe the preparations for leaving the departure. At the last tap of the bell, Tim thought there must be a swarm somewhere, but had no idea it was anything which concerned him. At length, as Tim afterwards expressed it, "she began to shake hard, and the water began to smash," and Tim for the first time observed they were in the midst of the river.

"Hello here, old hoss!" screamed Tim; "I say, Cap'n, what you 'bout?—where you goin' to?"

They were now under full headway, and Tim saw the town and "old gray" disappearing like magic.

"Thunder, why don't you hold her in?" roared Tim; "she's runnin' away. What'll we do? golly, cuss the critter—can't she be brought to?"

A wag, who comprehended poor Tim's predicament, observed:

"You are in for it now, my friend—we don't stop till we reach Pittsburg."

"I told you to keep away from the blasted varmint," screamed Rachel; "now what will become of us?"

Tim was in despair. At this moment the steamer's whistle uttered one of its sharpest notes, and poor Rachel fell down in a faint.

"She's done, squealin' and kicks!" shrieked Tim. "Oh, golly, Rachel, we are lost," and in the absence of the knowledge of any prayer, he tried to repeat a part of the blessing he had heard some aged one ask at the table.

By this time the Captain had learned of poor Tim's misfortune, and kindly ordered the boat to land, and Tim and Rachel once more stood on terra firma. Footing it back with all dispatch, the bridal of old gray still fast to the post; and not many minutes elapsed before his head was turned homeward, with Tim and Rachel, who were perfectly satisfied with what they had seen of the world in general, and their experience in steamboating in particular.—*Omar Wool.*

FUNNY CHARACTER.—"A very plain matter-of-fact farmer in our vicinity," writes a country correspondent, "a few years since had the misfortune to lose his barn, with its contents, by fire. He concluded to rebuild, and after he as the office of a gentleman noted for his charity and generosity, and who by-the-bye, had instantly said to the young man his farm, the subject of his loss was mentioned. With characteristic liberality, he counselled the young farmer to be not in a hurry in setting the foundation, but to be sure to have your lime; let me make you a present of fifty dollars." The farmer received it silently, counted it carefully twice, then looking at the donor, in a very business-like manner, exclaimed, "*I believe it's right, Doctor!*" Rather frosty gratitude this, but not quite so icy as was that of a man who elbowed his way through a crowd on the Fourth of July at Buffalo, some years ago, and said to one of our merchants, then on a visit to his native place, "Can't you give a poor fellow something, Mr. B——? I've got to be a poor cripple since you used to live here, and I can't do much. Come, give us a little sixpence, can ye?" Mr. B——, put his hand in his pocket and handed the man a half-dollar piece, which he pocketed, without uttering a word of thanks. In about an hour he came up to Mr. B——, who was taking a glass of wine with a friend at an inn, opposite the post office, and called out, "Here, Mr. B——, I've got a new half-dollar! Can't you, a New York merchant, 'and to give as much as he? I should say you could, *eay*." Not taking the idea himself of being outdone in generosity by his inferior, Mr. B——, handed the ungrateful rascal two quarter-dollar pieces, when he went off, precisely as before, without so much as "Thankee." In the evening, Mr. B——, was surprised by a call at the door of his room, after he had retired for the night. "Look ye here," exclaimed a new familiar voice from without, "look ye here, Squire, one of them quarters you 'gin me last was a pizzen!" "—*Knickerbocker.*

CHEAP FOR SAUCE.—We don't know the reason for it, but certainly it appears to be a fact, that persons pay an occupation in proportion to the fancied case which it will admit. Of this class is an old woman, whom I met in my travels. We had been talking about the ease with which she got through a dense piece of woodland. The old woman gazed on us for some time in silence. We all saw that she wanted to enter into conversation; and soon, with the exception of myself and my friend, we were the most confirmed listeners on various subjects that ever, and, as a matter of course, I put my *two leg forward*. Struck with my language, she exclaimed, in a tone quite flattering to my vanity,

"La, how learned you are."

But the complimentary received a death blow.

"If I was as high learned a scholar as you," continued she, "I'd quit injineerin' and go to keepin' a little grocery!"

QUARANTINE HONORS.—During the prevalence of the epidemic in Virginia, last summer, the negroes on the different plantations became decidedly alarmed, and thought they would certainly die with it. Among others, in one of the upper counties, was a negro boy, who, having heard his father say that the cholera would soon be along their way, left his work one day, and betook himself to the woods. Here he was found by his overseer, soon after, fast asleep. Being taken to task by him for leaving his work, he excused himself on the ground that, not being "prepared in mind to die," he had gone to the woods to "meditate."

"But," said the overseer, "how was it that you went to sleep?"

"Well, I don't know, 'actly,' responded the negro, "but I speck I must have *overpowered myself*."—*Richmond Whig.*

A MOVE JUDGE.—The other day some difficulty occurred in one of our courts, which occasioned a short suspension of business. The Judge asked the reason, and the Clerk replied that he "was looking for the minutes." Some further time passed, and at last the Judge, with some impatience, said, "It appears to me, Mr. Clerk, that we are losing minutes instead of finding them." It is charming to see the Law relaxing its dignity, and we will pleasure take that this minute joke in no jake of levity, and only of minutes import since.—*Illinois Law Journal.*

☞ "It's time to wind up," as the watchmaker said, when he couldn't pay his debts.

PUZZLING A LAWYER.

We do not know whether we ever published the following or not. If we have, however, it will well bear a republication, for it is capital.

Everybody in Philadelphia, and out of Philadelphia, we believe, (says the Germantown *Telegraph*,) knows, or has heard of Gottlieb Scheerer, a tall, robust, well-formed German, with a small twinkling eye, and a look that tells you, quite as distinctly as language, that he "knows a thing or two." Being called upon the stand as a witness on one occasion, he was catechised rather severely, (as the story goes,) by Mr. Dallas, who expected to make out a strong point, by eliciting something from the following questions:—

"Were you at Harrisburg, Mr. Scheerer, in December?"

"At Harrisburg in December, did you say, Mr. Dallas?"

"Yes, sir, I said at Harrisburg in December."

Putting his head down thoughtfully for a moment, he replied:

"No, sir; I was not."

"Were you at Harrisburg in *January*, Mr. Scheerer?"

"At Harrisburg in *January*, did you say, Mr. Dallas?"

"Yes, sir, at Harrisburg in January."

Relapsing into a thoughtful mood for a moment, he replied:

"No, sir, I was not at Harrisburg in January."

"And, Mr. Scheerer, were you at Harrisburg in February?"

"Did you say at Harrisburg in February, Mr. Dallas?"

Studying for a moment or two, as before:

"No, sir, I was not at Harrisburg in February."

Getting somewhat out of patience with him, Mr. D., elevating his tone, demanded:

"At what time, then, sir, were you at Harrisburg?"

"At Harrisburg? At Harrisburg, Mr. Dallas? *I was never at Harrisburg in my life, sir.*"

Of course the court adjourned instanter.

A CHEEK HIT.—We learn from a Parisian correspondent of the Tribune, that a clever sarcasm, upon populistic legislators has been lately put forth in Paris. It is a caricature, in which two chimney sweeps are represented fighting outside the Chamber of Deputies. A policeman interposes, saying:—"No fighting in the streets, you blackguards. Go inside the Chamber, if you wish to do that." The hit would be equally applicable in some of the incontinent rowdies, who occasionally figure on the floor of Congress.

Leaves from History.

SIEGE AND CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM.

FROM WASHINGTON IRVING'S "MAHOMET AND HIS SUCCESSORS."

The Moslem invaders reposed for a month at Damascus, from the toil of conquest, during which time Abu Obeidah sent to the Caliph to know whether he should undertake the siege of Cæsarea or Jerusalem. All was with Omar at the time, and advised the instant siege of the latter; for such, he said, had been the intention of the prophet. The enterprise against Jerusalem was as a holy war to the Moslems, for they reverenced it as an ancient seat of prophecy and revelation, connected with the histories of Moses, Jesus and Mahomet, and contained the sepulchres the tombs of several of the ancient prophets. The Caliph adopted the advice of Ali, and ordered Abu Obeidah to lead his army into Palestine, and lay siege to Jerusalem.

On receiving these orders, Abu Obeidah sent forward Yezed Abu Sofian, with five thousand men, to commence the siege, and for five successive days detached after him considerable reinforcements. The people of Jerusalem saw the approach of these pertinacious invaders, who were spread each way from the city, throughout the East, but they made no sally to oppose them, nor sent out any one to parley, but planted engines on their walls, and prepared for vigorous defence.—Yezed approached the city, and summoned it by proclamation, to surrender, on the usual honorable terms, profession of the faith or tribute, both were rejected with disdain. The Moslems would have made instant assault, but Yezed had no such instructions; he encamped, therefore, and waited until orders arrived from Abu Obeidah to attack the city, when he made the necessary preparations.

At cock-crow in the morning, the Moslem host was marshalled, the leaders repeated the matin prayer each at the head of his battalion, and all, as if by one consent, with a loud voice, gave the verse from the Koran:—"Enter ye, oh, people! into the holy land which Allah hath destined for you."

For ten days they made repeated but unavailing attacks; on the seventh day Abu Obeidah brought the whole army to their aid. He immediately sent a written summons, requiring the inhabitants to believe in the unity of God, the divine mission of Mahomet, the resurrection and final judgment; or else to acknowledge the allegiance and pay tribute to the Caliph; "otherwise," concluded the letter, "I will bring men against you who love death better than you love wine or swine's flesh; nor will I leave you, God willing, until I have slain all who are fighting men, and made slaves of your children."

The summons was addressed to the magistrates and principal inhabitants of Ælia, for so Jerusalem was named after the Emperor Ælius Adrian, who had rebuilt it after it had been ploughed up by Titus.

Sophronius, the Christian patriarch or bishop of Jerusalem, replied that this was the holy city, and the holy land, and that whoever entered either for a hostile purpose, was an offender in the eyes of God. He concluded by requiring or setting the invaders at defiance, for the walls and towers of the city had been diligently strengthened, and the garrison had been reinforced by fugitives from Termonk, and from various parts of Syria. The city, too, was strong in its situation, being surrounded by deep ravines and broken mountains, and above all there was a pious incentive to courage and perseverance in defending the sepulchre of Christ.

Four wintry months elapsed; every day there were sharp skirmishings; the besiegers were assailed by sallying parties, annoyed by the engines on the walls, and harassed by the inclement weather. The winter was severe, and the snows unusually abundant. At length the Patriarch Sophronius held a parley from the walls with Abu Obeidah.—"Do you not know," said he, "that this city is holy; and that whoever offers violence to it draws upon his head the vengeance of heaven?"

"We know it," replied Abu Obeidah, "to be the house of the prophets, where their bodies lie interred; we know it to be the place whence our prophet Mahomet made his nocturnal ascent to heaven; and we know that we are more worthy of possession of it than you are, not with standing the siege until Allah has delivered it into our hands, as he has done many other places."

Seeing there was no further hope, the patriarch consented to give up the city, on condition that the Caliph would come in person to take possession and sign the articles of surrender.

When this unusual stipulation was made known to the Caliph, he held a council with his friend. Othman despised the people of Jerusalem, and was for refusing their request, but Ali represented the sanctity and importance of the place in the eyes of the Christians, which might prompt them to resistance it, and to make a desperate defence if treated with indignity. Besides, he added, the presence of the Caliph would cheer and inspirit the army in their long absence, and alter the hardships of a winter campaign.

The words of Ali had their weight with the Caliph; though certain Arabian writers pretend that he was chiefly moved by a tradition handed down in Jerusalem from days of yore, when Isaiah, that a man of his name, religion, and personal appearance, should conquer the holy city. Whatever may have been his inducements, the Caliph resolved to receive in person the surrender of Jerusalem. He accordingly equipped Ali, to officiate in his place during his absence from Medina.—then, having prayed at the mosque, and put a purse vest to the bank of the prophet, he set out on his journey.

The progress of this formidable potentate, who already held the destinies of empires in his grasp, and had the plunder of the Orient at his command, is characteristic of the primitive days of Mahomedanism, and reveals, to some measure, the secret of its success. He travelled on a red or mottled camel, across which was slung an ample wallet, with a huge sack or pocket at each end, something like the modern cabile-bags. One pocket contained dates and dried fruits, and the other a provision called tabic, which was nothing more than barley meal, parched or seared in the fire. Before him hung a leathern bottle, or sack, for water, and behind him a wooden platter. His companions, without distinction of rank, ate with him out of the same dish, using their fingers according to Oriental usage. He slept at night on a mat spread out under a tree, or under a common Bedouin tent of hair cloth, and never resumed his march until he had offered up the morning prayer.

As he journeyed through Arabia in this simple way, he listened to the complaints of the people, redressed their grievances, and administered justice with sound judgment and a rigid hand. Information was brought to him of an Arab who was married to two sisters, a practice not unusual among idolaters, but the man was now a Mahometan. Omar cited the culprit and his two wives into his presence, and lectured him roundly with his officials; but he declared his ignorance that it was contrary to the law of the prophet.

"Then, lest," said Omar, "thou shalt part with one of them unfairly, or lose thy head."

"Evil was the day that I embraced such a religion," muttered the culprit. "Of what advantage has it been to me?"

"Come nearer to me," said Omar; and on his approaching, the Caliph bestowed two wholesome blows on his head with his walking-staff.

"Enemy of God and of thyself," cried he, "let these blows reform thy manners, and teach thee to speak with more reverence of a religion ordained by Allah, and acknowledged by the best of His creatures."

He then ordered the offender to choose between his wives, and finding him at a loss which to prefer, the matter was determined by lot, and he was dismissed by the Caliph with this parting admonition: "Whoever professes Islam, and afterwards renounces it, is punishable with death; therefore take heed to your faith. And as to your wife's sister, whom you have put away, if ever I hear that you have meddled with her you shall be stoned."

At another place he beheld a number of men exposed to the burning heat of the sun by their Moslem conquerors, as a punishment for failing to pay their tribute. Finding, on inquiry, that they were entirely destitute of means, he ordered them to be released; and turning reproachfully to their oppressors, "Cumpel them," said he, "to more than they can bear; for I heard the apostle of God say, he who afflicts his fellow-man in this world, will be punished with the fire of Jehennam."

While yet within a day's journey of Jerusalem, Abu Obeidah came to meet him, and conduct him to the camp. The Caliph proceeded with due deliberation, never forgetting his duties as a priest, and teacher of Islam. In the morning he said the usual prayers, and preached a sermon, in which he spoke of the security of those whom God should lead in the right way; but added, that there was no help for such as God should lead into error.

A gray-headed Christian priest, who sat before him, could not resist the opportunity to criticise the language of the Caliph preacher. "God leads no man into error," said he, aloud.

Omar designed no direct reply, but, turning to those around, "Strike off that old man's head," said he, "if he repeats his words."

The old man was dismissed, and held his peace. There was no arguing against the sword of Islam.

On his way to the camp Omar beheld a number of Arabs, who had thrown by the simple garb of their country, and arrayed themselves in the silken spoils of Syria. He saw the danger of this luxury and effeminacy, and ordered that they should be dragged with their faces in the dirt, and their silken garments torn from their backs.

When he came in sight of Jerusalem he lifted up his voice and exclaimed, "Allah Achbar! God is mighty! God grant us an easy conquest!" Then commanding his tent to be pitched, he dismounted from his camel and sat down within it on the ground. The Christians thronged to see the sovereign of this new and irresistible people, who were overrunning and subduing the earth. The Moslems, fearful of an attempt at assassination, would have kept them at a distance, but Omar rebuked their fears. Nothing will befall us but what God hath decreed. Let the faithful trust in Him."

The arrival of the Caliph was followed by immediate capitulation. When the deputies from Jerusalem were admitted to a private audience, they thought proper to dispense with ceremony, and astonished to find this dreaded potentate a bald-headed man, simply clad, and seated on the ground in a tent of hair-cloth.

The articles of surrender were drawn up in writing by Omar, and agreed afterwards as a model for the Moslem leaders in other conquests. The Christians were to build no new churches in the surrendered territory. The church-doors were to be set open to travellers, and free ingress permitted to Mahometans by day and night. The bells should only toll, and not ring, and no crosses should be erected on the churches, nor shown publicly in the streets. The Christians should not teach the Koran to their children; nor speak openly of their religion; nor attempt to make proselytes; nor hinder their kindred from embracing Islam. They should not assume the Moslem dress, either caps, slippers, or turbans, nor part their hair like Moslems, but should always be distinguished by girdles. They should not use the Arabian language in inscriptions on their signets, nor salute after the Moslem manner, nor be called by Moslem surnames. They should rise on the entrance of a Moslem, and remain standing until he should be seated. They should entertain every Moslem traveller three days gratis. They should sell no wine, bear no arms, and use no saddles in riding; neither should they have any domestic who had been in Moslem service.

Such were the degrading conditions imposed upon the proud city of Jerusalem, once the glory and terror of the East, by the leader of a host of wandering Arabs. They were the conditions generally imposed by the Moslems in their fanatical career of conquest. Utter scorn and abhorrence of their religious adversaries formed one of the main springs of their zeal.

The Christians having agreed to surrender on these terms, the Caliph gave them, under his own hand, an assurance of protection in their lives and fortunes, the use of their churches, and the exercise of their worship.

Omar entered the once splendid city of Solomon on foot, in his simple Arab garb, with his walking-staff in his hand, and accompanied by the venerable Sophronius, with whom he talked familiarly, inquiring about the antiquities and public edifices. The worthy patriarch treated the conqueror with all outward deference, but, if we may trust the words of a Christian historian, he loathed the dirty Arab in his heart, and was particularly disgusted with his garb of coarse woollen, patched with sheepskin. His disgust was almost irrepressible when they entered the Church of the Resurrection, and Sophronius behold the Caliph in his filthy attire, seated in the midst of the sacred edifice. "This, of a truth," exclaimed he, "is the abomination of desolation predicted by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place."

It is added that, to parody the cleanly scruples of the patriarch, Omar consented to put on clean raiment when he offered him, until his own garments were washed.

An instance of the strict good faith of Omar is related as occurring on this visit to the Christian temples. While he was standing with the patriarch in the Church of the Resurrection, one of the stated hours for Moslem worship arrived, and he demanded where he might pray. "Where you now are," replied the patriarch. Omar, however, declined, and went forth. The patriarch conducted him to the Church of Constantine, and repeated a mat for him to pray there; but again he refused. On going forth, he knelt, and prayed on the flight of steps leading down from the east gate of the church. This done, he turned to the Christian patriarch, and gave him a gracious reason for his conduct. "Had I prayed in either of the churches," said he, "the Moslems would have taken possession of it, and construed it as a mosque."

So scrupulous was he in observing his capitulation with the people of Jerusalem, that, when the patriarch a writing, forbidding the Moslems to pray upon the steps where he had prayed, except one person at a time. The zeal of the faithful, however, outstripped their respect for his commands, and one-third of the steps and porch was afterwards included in a mosque built over the spot which he had accidentally sanctified.

The Caliph next sought the place where the temple of Solomon had stood, where he founded a mosque, which, in after times, being enlarged and enriched by succeeding Caliphs, became of the noblest edifices of Islam worship, and second only to the magnificent mosque of Cordova.

The surrender of Jerusalem took place in the seventeenth year of the Hegira, and the six hundred and thirty-seventh year of the Christian era.

PLATO.—Plato is a great average man; one who, in the best thinking, adds a proportion and equality in his behaviour, that most are in love with their own dreams and glimpses made available, and made to pass for what they are. A great common-sense is his warrant and qualification to be the world's interpreter. He has reason, as all the philosophers have had, but he has taken it both ways, what they have not—this strong, strong sense to reconcile his poetry with the appearances of the world, and build a bridge from the streets of office to the Atlantic. He omits never this gradation, but slopes his thought, however portentous the precipice on one side, to set across from the plain. He never writes in ecstasy, or catches up into poetic raptures.—*Emerson.*

Science and Art.

DISCOVERY IN TASMANIA.—We are informed by a correspondent from New Oxford, Pennsylvania, that Mr. William H. Rosendale, of that place, has discovered a new and valuable improvement in the mode of Tanning Leather, which has been tried for nine months, and which, it is said, will save "one-fourth of the bark and make the stock weigh at least three pounds more per hide, leaving it one third of the usual time, and making a better looking article." These are very important improvements, especially as only one-fourth of the customary number of vats are employed, corresponding to less than one half of the usual labor is saved. We are not able to describe the process, but our correspondent is one on whom we place every confidence in what he asserts.—*Scientific American.*

FOR VARNISHING FIRE-ARMS.—Pure half an ounce of tar with the same quantity of bismuth, in a crucible; when melted, add half-an-ounce of mercury. When perfectly combined, take the mixture from the fire and cool it. This substance, mixed with the white of an egg, forms a very beautiful varnish for plaster figures, &c.

FOUNDERS.—Put in a crucible five ounces of pure copper; when it is in a state of fusion, add one ounce of zinc. These metals combine, forming an alloy not unlike jeweller's gold; pour it into a mould of any shape. This alloy is used for inferior jewellery.

POWER OF A BUSHEL OF COALS.—It is well known to modern engineers, that there is a virtue in a bushel of coals, properly consumed